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THE
IMPORTANCE
OF THE
BRITISH PLANTATIONS
IN
AMERICA
TO THIS
KINGDOM;

WITH
The STATE of their TRADE, and
Methods for Improving it;

AS ALSO
A DESCRIPTION of the several Colo-
nies there.

L O N D O N:

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To the Right Honourable

Sir **ROBERT WALPOLE**,

First Commissioner of the Treasury, Chancellor
and Under-Treasurer of the Exchequer; One
Styl^d of His Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council,
and Knight of the most Noble Order of the
Garter.

S I R,



Parliament - Business
Treatise of Trade in this Nation
of ours, which flourishes, and
indeed subsists by it, cannot be
so properly inscribed, as to one who bears,
and has long borne, so eminent a Share in
directing our National Counsels, and
consequently our National Commerce.
For, no Man knows better than Yourself,
that these two can never be separated
without fatal Effects; and that when-
ever our Trade perishes, so must our
public Dignity and Strength. How
much we are indebted to that of our
Plantations, is generally confess'd, tho'
I believe, not universally understood.

7.12.28 Cheverton 35784
This therefore is what I have under-
taken to explain to my Countreymen,
that they may clearly see the vast Im-
portance of our Colonies in *America*,
and, thro' a just Principle of Interest,
as

The DEDICATION.

as well as of Generosity, be vigilant for their Preservation and Encouragement.

How well, Sir, You understand the Interest of Your Countrey in all its Parts, I need not declare, at least I do not chuse this Place for declaring it; and 'tis alike needless to mention how much Your own Honour and Fortune, and consequently all Your Views, are and must be connected with those of the Public: Permit me however to say, that this is a Consideration which will always be a Pledge for every able and wise Minister, that for his own Advantage and Glory, he must pursue the Interest of the whole.

As I am therefore well convinced how much You do of course interest yourself in the Condition and Demands of our Trade and Colonies, I do with the more Alacrity and Boldness present you the following Tract, and beg You to believe that I am with very profound Respect,

S I R,

Your most humble

most dutiful, and

most obedient Servant,

F. Hall.

P R E F A C E.

I Have for some Time observed an earnest Desire in many Gentlemen of Figure and Consequence in this Kingdom, to be informed of the State of our Trade in general. As I have lived in America many Years, as I have traded to most of the Places which I give any Account of, and have occasionally been at them all, except New-England, Hudson's-Bay, and the Bay of Apalachy; I laid hold of all Opportunities to inform myself of their Trade and Commerce, according to the best of my Capacity. Hence I persuade myself, that it will not only be acceptable, but useful, to communicate to the Public what Knowledge I have acquired relating to the Trade in and to our Plantations in America.

I am apprehensive that some Gentlemen in our Plantations may think the Trade and Importance of their respective Colonies undervalued. To such I shall say, that after the most exact Enquiries I could make, I have done them all the Justice in my Power, and shall be ready on all Occasions to rectify any Errors or Mistakes of mine, such as a Work of this kind cannot but be liable to. It will appear to any unprejudiced Person, that I could have no View but the Service of the Public, since all that is aimed at is to shew how all our Plantations, Sugar Colonies as
well

The P R E F A C E.

well as the Northern Provinces, may be of more Advantage to us as well as themselves. This I take to be a Matter of vast Concernment to this Nation. Of my own Performance I shall say nothing, only that what I have said I have taken great Care should be true; and that the State and Interest of our Colonies, has never before been thoroughly represented, at least in one View.

This my Design will be answered, if I can but be instrumental in keeping up that Spirit of Enquiry into Trade and Commerce, which I am pleased to see raised in so great a Part of our Legislature. From these Enquiries we are to hope and expect proper Regulations. There indeed always was a Necessity for looking into Trade, and perhaps never more than just now. We have long been running in Debt to Foreign Nations for those things which by a little good Management we could produce in our own Dominions. Nor am I without Hopes that some just Measures will soon be taken, such as may reduce the Balance of Accounts with Foreign Nations to be in our Favour.

T H E



T H E
I M P O R T A N C E
O F T H E
B R I T I S H P L A N T A T I O N S , & C .



PEOPLE and Riches are the true Strength of a Country; the first will increase by Liberty, and the other by Trade. But as the Bounds of Liberty are exceeded, whenever it is put in the Power of one or more of a Society to act to the Damage or Detriment of that Society with Impunity; so Trade, which ought to be general and free to all, certainly may, and ought to be restrained, wherever it is found injurious or disadvantageous to the Society in general. Hence arises the Necessity of Laws for the Regulation

lation of Trade and Commerce; for restraining and prohibiting what is destructive, and enlarging and increasing what is gainful and necessary.

For Example, if it can be proved that with most of those Nations in *Europe* which lye due East from any Part of this Kingdom of *Great Britain*, or to the Northward, the Ballance of Trade is against us, and hath been many Years; will it not be allowed highly reasonable to discourage such Parts or Branches of it, as are not absolutely necessary?

First I shall explain what I mean by the Ballance of Trade, then shew in some Instances wherein that Ballance is against us at present; and offer some Proposals for the discouraging those Branches of Trade with them which are most detrimental to us, and farther shew, that most of those Things which are absolutely necessary for us as a trading Nation, may be produced within our own Dominions at a less Expence than we purchase them from Foreigners, to the Increase of our own Shipping and Navigation, and the Employment of more Manufacturers in this Kingdom:

First, the Ballance of Trade may be estimated thus. Admit we take from any, or all of these Nations, Goods, Wares, and Merchandize, to a greater Value than they
do

do of ours, the Difference is the Ballance of that Trade, and must be paid in Cash.

Yet it is possible for us to import from a Country Goods to a greater Value than our Exports, and be Gainers of near the whole Difference, where those Goods are for Exportation, and the Navigation out and home was in our Shipping; for in this Case Freight, &c. is charged upon the Imports, but was all saved or got by our own People. And this is the Case with all our Plantations, as for Example in *Virginia* or *Maryland*, eight Shillings Worth of Goods exported will purchase 100 Pounds of Tobacco, which at Importation is valued at 16s. and 8d. and if half of that Quantity is exported, by which we receive or satisfy where we owed 8s. 4d. it will appear we have gained near that Sum; but if in *Virginia* we should receive Tobacco, or other Goods to a greater Value than they did of ours, the Ballance or Difference must be paid them in Cash; and so much Advantage or Ballance they would really have by us, notwithstanding we, by being Carriers and Merchants, might save or gain that Way more than that Difference.

Without understanding and considering these Things thoroughly, it will be almost impossible to avoid Confusion and Perplexity on this Subject; and whoever is ignorant of this, is not only liable to be imposed on by designing Men, but is also inca-

pable of distinguishing between those Trades which bring in and carry out Riches.

We will suppose 75 Hundred of Deals imported from *Norway* in an *English* Ship, Value here 660 Pounds, the Computation thus:

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Prime Cost. ———	413	03	0
Custom and Bill-Money, &c. ———	090	00	0
Freight, ——— ———	145	00	0
Lighterage and Porterage, &c. ———	011	17	0
	<hr/>		
	660	00	0
	<hr/>		

It is apparent *Norway* can have received but 413 *l.* 3 *s.* the other 246 *l.* 17 *s.* is either saved or got by our Shipping, &c. but if the same Goods had been imported by a *Danish* Ship, we had paid the Freight over and above, which is more than one third of the first Cost; hence appears the Reasonableness of employing our own Shipping before any other. For if *Norway* have so great a Ballance upon us, as Mr. *Gee* seems to think they have, *viz.* 130000 *l.* *per Annum*, though I cannot but be of Opinion it is more than that Sum, we might save at least 6000 *l.* (which is near the Freight we annually pay them) by employing our own Shipping only. How this is to be

be done I shall not take upon me to direct; but surely we ought not to be afraid of dis-obliging a People, who, if they were to be hindered or prohibited importing their Lumber here in their Ships, would at least have a Balance upon us of 124,000 *l*. Especially when we consider we can have all those Things from our own Dominions, equal in Goodness and nearly as cheap, as we find already by many Sorts of Lumber which they supply us with, to the Increase of our Shipping and Navigation.

It is a certain Truth that we might be Gainers by taking all our Lumber from our own Plantations, tho' the Freight of such Lumber (which is all paid here, and to our own People) were equal to the first Cost in *Norway*; for the Purchase of many Sorts of Lumber in *New-England* may be had for one fourth Part (first Cost in Goods) that we now have them from *Norway* for. And in the Case of our own Plantations and Shipping we do not advance one Penny in Cash; for whatever is sent abroad is our own Produce and Manufacture, whereas in the other Case 'tis thought that at least more than one third of the Whole is paid in Cash: In short, whatever we have from our own Plantations costs us nothing, but the Labour of manufacturing Goods for them, and that of bringing theirs here, while to other Countries we are weak enough to continue paying those very Sums
of

of Money which we get from those Plantations.

I should be glad to have a Reason given why we should thus pay such prodigious Sums annually, as we do to our East Country Neighbours. Are we not a powerful People upon a fine Island? Is there a Maritime Power on the Globe that we need to fear, while we mind our Trade and Plantations, which are perhaps the greatest Nurseries for Sailors in the World, and by far the greatest of any other Powers in *Europe*? Doth not the Strength and Security of our Island depend principally on our Shipping, and those brave Fellows who man them? If the Encouragement of these be attended to, we cannot miss of being safe and happy; but if we neglect our Plantations and Trade, if we let other Nations supply those Markets which we used to supply, then in Proportion to their Increase and Industry, and our own Indolence and Neglect, we shall become just in the same State that the *Spaniards* are in upon *Hispaniola*; that is, liable to be beaten quite out on any Rupture between the Crowns.

The next thing which I propose, is to discourage the Importation, at least the Wear and Use, of the following Commodities, from those Countries where it is allowed we pay so great a Ballance, *viz.* Brandy, Lace, Linnens of all sorts, even coarse
as

as well as Holland, Cambrick, and Cambrick-Lawns; likewise Brocades, Velvets, and all manufactured Silks; also Iron, Copper, Hemp, Flax and Pot-Ash.

Instead of Brandy, which costs us about 2 s. 6 d. per Gallon, let us encourage Rum from our own Plantations, where it never did cost one quarter part in Value, and that paid out of our own Manufacture too. Why of late Years Brandy imported from *Dunkirk*, is not as certainly *French* Brandy, as Wine imported thence is *French* Wine, I should be glad to be informed. Whoever thinks that permitting the Importation of such Brandy here, will contribute to the Destruction or Demolition of *Dunkirk* (which is certainly the Desire of every *Englishman*) is as much, or more, mistaken, than those Engineers who began at the wrong End to demolish the Works of that Place, and left the Foundations of the Pier Heads unshaken and unremoved: They might as well have been untouched in effect; for the Foundations alone, above and before all other things, should have been at first destroyed; for had those been blown up, they could not make a Harbour in so few Years, as they can now in Days. He who doth not know this, and that they might sluice their back Waters everlastingly without Effect, if there was not that Confinement, knows little of those Affairs; and he
that

that did know the Consequence of leaving those Foundations there, when it was in his Power to remove them, what doth he deserve?

He who hath ever seen any of our wet Docks, or taken any notice of the Water-Works at *Chelsea*, must have observed, that a Channel is always formed by the Water which was kept up, and let run upon the Banks of the River, on the Tide's being out; and this will as constantly keep a Channel in such Places, as the Cause continues, and it is as true that whenever that is discontinued, it will grow up again.

Now where it is required to make such a Channel on Sea-Coasts, where, by the violent and different Agitations of Waves and Wind, that Place is subject to be filled up, or altered, and made otherways so irregular, by the Sands being thrown up in different, and often unexpected Places, that such Place is rendered ineffectual: There will always arise the Necessity of Pier-Heads, or as the *French* call them *Jet d'eaux*, which are generally Stone Walls of sufficient Solidity to resist the Force of the Waves, built out from the Land, parallel one to the other; and in Places where the Foundation is not good, they are under the Necessity of driving Piles, which are of pretty large Timber (frequently as large as any about *Fulham* Bridge) as near one another as possible, to make a sufficient

ficient Foundation. Hence the vast Labour and Expence of such Works; but where Stone is not so easily procured, it is usual to carry out the Pier or Jetty Heads with such sort of Work as the said Bridge.

The Breadth and Length of the Channel is always proportioned to the Design: For if it be made broad, there requires a proportionable Quantity of Water more, to scour and drive away whatever settles or lodges in it: And in proportion to the length likewise, the Velocity and Force of the Water is abated; but that will be always in proportion to the Quantity let run. Hence the Reasonableness and Use of preserving great Quantities of Back Water, and commanding a great number of Sluices for such Designs.

Now in all Places where the Foundations are good, and the Back Waters sufficient, that Channel will be very easily and very soon scoured; and the Superstructure (which is principally for directing to and shewing the Channel, when the Waters are up, and for the Convenience of People's assisting all Vessels going in and out) may be soon raised, and at a small Charge.

As the Water Works at *Chelsea* have been mentioned, I take leave to say, That from the first they should have had at fewest three, if not four Basons, or Receivers, for their Water; from one of which the Water, after it was

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settled

settled, should have been sent to their Reservoirs, and they would all have served to clean each other. If this had been foreseen (as 'tis wonderful it was not) in the first Design, these Conveniencies had been gained for no more Expence, than they were at to bring it to what it was last Year; and all that Charge and needless Trouble of sending Men in to clean out the Mud, would have been prevented.

As it is a small Expence, no doubt from this Hint the Gentlemen concerned will think worth while to go about it; and I can assure them, the sooner the better; for their Reservoirs, &c. will soon look like *Tower Ditch* if they do not. This Digression I could not avoid; but I hope it will be excused, considering the Importance of the Place which gave Occasion to it: A Place imperfectly, if not fraudulently, demolished at first, and therefore too easily restored not long after: A Misfortune that has since produced much Uneasiness and many Clamours, which unjustly fell upon those who were no ways chargeable with the first and fatal Oversight. But to return,

Instead of the vast quantities of Linnens, Cambricks, Brocades, &c. let us make use of Callicoes, Muslins and *India* Silks, as we used to do; which did never cost us half the Price, nor indeed did they ever cost the Kingdom half of that half. But if a general

neral Allowance of the *East India* Silks, &c. shall be thought to discourage the Silk Manufacture, why shall we suffer Silks from those Places, where we are obliged to give at least two Yards of *India* for one of equal Goodness, of their Manufacture?

I am persuaded there is not at this time one Man of Sense and Observation, who wants to be convinced of our Weakness in prohibiting the Wear of printed Callicoes, and, I may say too, of Muslins; for Fashion as effectually does one, as an Act of Parliament the other. Will any one say there is a Yard of Woollen worn the more for such Prohibition? Is there a Wench above Sixteen who does not find herself more acceptable to others when she looks clean, than when she is obliged to wear Woollen, which never looks so clean; or when dirty, can it so easily be made clean? Are there not as many printed Gowns worn as before? Is that Prohibition attended with any other Consequence than importing Linnen instead of Callico, from those Countries to whom we give near Two Yards of a Commodity of equal Goodness for one? And whom do we employ by this? Why, generally, People who are so civil as to prohibit the Importation of our Woollen Manufacture among them.

The Way to remedy this, will be to lay on such a Duty on imported Linnen, which

shall be worn here, as to encourage that Manufacture among ourselves. And if the Duty, &c. which was upon *India* Goods be not sufficient to prevent their vast Consumption here; and if thereby our own Manufactures shall be discouraged, let us advance and increase the Duties on *India* Goods to a proportionate Degree, that those who are so fond of foreign Manufacture may pay toward the Support of our own Government only, and not to the Employment and Support of a People who have enriched themselves by our Follies, more than their own Industry, tho' that is very great.

Don't we by prohibiting Callicoes, &c. which paid 30 *per Cent* Duty, as plainly give that Duty to those we buy the Linnens from, as if by giving them half a Crown for 2 *s.* we should give 6 *d.*?

But say some People, Do you think they will take your *India* Goods, if you don't take theirs? No, not in equal Quantities perhaps, as just now they do, but is it not manifest we shall gain just in proportion to the Quantity of Callicoes, &c. which we use here instead of their Linnen.

For Example, Suppose *A* goes into a Drapers Shop, he is shew'd a Piece of *Eastern* Linnen, for which he is ask'd 11 *s.* 6 *d.* he sees a Piece of Callico equal in Goodness and Quantity, for which he is ask'd no more: The Callico has paid Duty 4 *s.* 4 *d.* the Lin-

nen

nen but 1 s. 1 d. and he purchases both; pray which has the Government got most by?

Let us suppose 100 pounds worth of these Callicoes were to be exported to *Holland*, the Drawback will amount to 30 pounds at least; so that *Holland* becomes indebted to us but 70 l. for which they send us Linnen, which at Importation pays the Government 9 l. 11 s. 8 d. Will not this make it appear we have lost the whole Difference, viz. 20 l. 8 s. 4 d. which the *Dutch* have actually gained in the same Quantity of a Commodity equal in Goodness?

Does any one think that Countries which manufacture Linnens, &c. so exquisitely, would prefer the Goods of *India*, but for Cheapness? The *India* Company neither gain nor lose by this; but is it not plain the Kingdom hath lost as much Cloth as the Difference? Doth it not appear plain that to put the like Quantity of Cloth in its Place, it will cost us 20 l. 8 s. 4 d. more? It would be altogether as reasonable to give them 20 *per Cent.* to carry back their own Linnen; and much more for the Interest of our Kingdom to give a Bounty of 20 *per Cent* upon all our own Linnen Manufactures.

If with regard to our own Manufactures we should lay a higher Duty both upon *India* Silks and Callicoes, &c. than there ever was, and tolerate them, and they should afterward be worn, would not the Govern-
ment

ment get or save so much as the Duty or Difference at least? One would think such a Nation as ours should not want to be told their Interest, or that, when told it, they would not delay to pursue it.

It is notorious that our own Plantations have not taken, in any degree of Comparison, so much of our Woollen Manufacture as they did before our prohibiting the Wear of printed Callicoes, and other *India* Goods, and they would be weak not to do as they do, since it is their Interest.

It is in the Power of a Family, nay of two illustrious Personages, to save this Kingdom some Hundred Thousands a Year by their Example in Dress only; an Example which they will undoubtedly set, as soon as they are apprized what prodigious Advantages the Publick will reap from it. The greatest Princes have gloried in being cloathed with the Manufactures of their own Kingdoms: For Instance, Queen *Elizabeth*, *Harry* the IVth of *France*, the great *Czar* of *Muscovy*, and *Lewis* the XIVth of *France*, who were all remarkable Encouragers of Trade and Manufactures. I am informed that even in fabricating the *French* Fopperies of Laces, Brocades, Ribbands and Velvets, we are little inferior to any People; and if I knew of any who exceeded us in manufacturing any of the most rational and manly Parts of our Apparel, I should be glad

glad to mention them for Imitation. If this be our Case, as it certainly is, what shall we think of those who seem to place a Pleasure in, and give such a vast Preference to every Thing foreign, tho' no better in Reality than our own. This surely is the Effect of Weakness and Folly; and therefore ought, by the Wisdom of the Legislature, to be restrained; for I will not suppose that any of these *Petits Maitres* can have any real Design to distress us, or that they are in a Plot against us; tho', should their Number increase, of which there seems some Danger, they might be above Controul.

When my Lord *Portland* was Ambassador in *France*, the Gentlemen in his Retinue, who were perhaps as signal for their Birth, Quality and Number, as any that ever did Honour to an Embassy, according to my Lord's Example, were dressed in plain *English* Cloth, without any Lace or Embroidery. The King was so much taken with that Sight, that he spoke to his Court to this Effect; " When I look on those *English* Men, I admire and am pleased with
 " the Elegance and Politeness of their
 " Dress; tho' young Men, they appear with
 " the Dignity of Senators, while many a-
 " bout me seem to affect to look like *Petits Maitres*.

I am well informed that this had such Effect, that even to his Death his greatest Favour-

Favourites and Ministers, as also the Princes of the Blood, became signal for their plain Dress; and, by his Example, came to prefer their own Manufactures to all others. That Prince established and encouraged many, even against the Inclinations of his People; witness his many successive Edicts against Muslins, *viz.* Aug. 9, 1709; April 28, 1710; March 29, 1712; June 11, 1714; though all without Effect, till his own Example influenced his Court, and that of the Court his whole Kingdom: And I wish I could say, that Example had not influenced us to fall into the wearing of what they wore, *viz.* their Lawns and Cambricks, instead of our own Muslins.

How preposterously do we ape the *French* in all Things, even in their Arts, to conceal Defects and ill Shapes, which we have not, or are not remarkable for? That Yoke of black Ribband round the Neck, no doubt, was invented to conceal a Crane, or Goose Neck; the Waste of the Coat was shortened, no doubt, to conceal ill-shaped Hips: And because a *Frenchman* wants a proper Breadth at the Breast and Shoulders, we must pinch and squeeze in ours, while in all, or most Things wherein they are worthy of Imitation, we either overlook, neglect, or despise them.

We need not long be under the Necessity of being beholden to these Countries
 7 where

where it is allowed we pay such prodigious Sums annually for Copper, Iron, Hemp, Flax, and Pot-Ash. A very little Encouragement by a small Bounty for a few Years will put our own People in the Plantations, on producing us Hemp and Flax sufficient for our Use. There is no Part of the Globe fitter than *Carolina, Virginia, Pensilvania, &c.* are; yet they have been neglected, no one, so far as ever I have been informed, offering the least Assistance to them for many Years past. It is true, they have attempted the Production of Hemp and Flax; in both they have succeeded; but whether they thoroughly understand the proper Ways of curing and dressing them is doubted, because they have sent here to request their Friends to procure for them, if possible, some People of Skill in those Affairs, from the Countreys where such Commodities are best understood and produced.

Surely Affairs of this Consequence should be worth the Notice, even of the Government, and fit Persons should be sent over at the publick Charge to instruct our People there, in the Produce of all those Things which may be for our Advantage, and making them more dependent on us. The making of Pitch and Tar was often thought impracticable, though now we know where to be supplied with those two Necessaries, at a less Price than the *Danes* and

Swedes made us pay, before that Art was taught us.

The Production of Rice in *Carolina*, which is of such prodigious Advantage, was owing to the following Accident. A Brigantine from the Island *Madagascar* happened to put in there; they had a little Seed Rice left, not exceeding a Peck, or Quarter of a Bushel, which the Captain offered, and gave to a Gentleman of the Name of *Woodward*. From Part of this he had a very good Crop, but was ignorant for some Years how to clean it. It was soon dispersed over the Province; and by frequent Experiments and Observations they found out Ways of producing and manufacturing it to so great Perfection, that it is thought it exceeds any other in Value. The Writer of this hath seen the said Captain in *Carolina*, where he received a handsome Gratuity from the Gentlemen of that Countrey, in Acknowledgement of the Service he had done that Province.

It is likewise reported that Mr. *Du Bois*, Treasurer of the *East India* Company, did send to that Countrey a small Bag of Seed-Rice some short Time after, from whence it is reasonable enough to suppose might come those two Sorts of that Commodity, one called Red Rice in Contradistinction to the White, from the Redness of the inner Husk.

Husk or Rind of this Sort, tho' they both clean, and become white alike.

The Charge of procuring and sending over proper Persons to instruct our own People there in making Pot-Ash, producing and managing the Hemp and Flax fit for Shipping Home, I could heartily wish might not be longer delayed. And on this Occasion I will take the Liberty to recommend the sending some Persons of Skill and Capacity to the *East Indies*, &c. to supply our own Plantations with the most valuable of their Plants. There is nothing can grow in any Climate which some of our Plantations is not very capable of producing. Perhaps Doctor *Radcliff*'s travelling Physician could not be better employed. The Charge to the Government will be inconsiderable; the Advantage of the highest Consequence. In a few Years they may be capable of supplying us with all we want, not only for the carrying on of our Manufactures for all Sorts of naval Stores, which are as absolutely necessary for this Kingdom, as Food for the natural Body.

By this Means the People in the Plantations will employ a much greater Number of Hands here, a greater Number of Ships and Sailors will be employed in that Trade, than are at present to *Russia*. Mr. *Mun* in his Discourse entitled, *England's Treasure by Foreign Trade*, Page 36. than whom no

one since seems to have understood Trade better, says: “ But where the Voyages are short, and the Wares rich, which therefore will not employ much Shipping, the Profit will be far less”. Besides, the Wear and Tear of both Ships and Men will be constantly supplied from our own Materials and Manufacture; whereas it is now the constant Practice of all Ships and People in the East Countrey and *Russia* Trades to be supplied, the Ships with Sails, Cordage, oftentimes Anchors and Provisions, and themselves with Linnen and other Apparel of Foreign Manufacture, which never paid us any Duty, and for which there are frequently Bills drawn. These Practices have been considerable in the Balance against us, and yet cannot properly be brought into the Account of Imports.

By this Means the Linnen Manufacture may be improved here by having, perhaps, the finest Flax in the World imported; our Sail-Cloth Manufacture may be more encouraged; and, in Case of any Disturbances among the Northern Powers, we may be sure of a Supply of naval Stores, which we have not always been, without large Concessions to some of those People, who, if they had known their Interest, would not have forced us on producing so great a Part, as we already are perfect in.

I will

I will take Leave in this Place to offer what appears reasonable for taking off all Duties and Customs from Bar and Pig Iron, and Copper, of the Produce of our *American* Plantations. First we shall have the manufacturing of it into Utensils for them, and by that Means gain at least three Quarter Parts of the Whole by our own Labour, beside the Freight of our Ships out and home. It is obvious this can cost us nothing, and we are sure to be Gainers by our Shipping and Labour. What Iron and Copper we take from the East, it is allowed we pay Money for, which never returns in any Shape. Here if the Imports in Iron and Copper should exceed the Exports in the Iron and Copper Manufacture, some other of our Manufactures must ballance the Account; not a Penny in Money or Bill, which is generally equally the same.

We now get from 30 to 40 or 50 *per Cent.* upon wrought Iron and Copper, carried hence to our Plantations; what will be the Consequence, if they are allowed to go on with those Manufactures? And yet it would be very severe to restrain them, and make them pay Aliens Duties. Shall not we lose those very Advantages we now have by our Plantations; which will be proved in this Discourse to be the most valuable we are possessed of, as well as the most certain Means of increasing our Riches?

es? Will it not appear much more reasonable to make them produce all the rough Materials we want, and which they are certainly capable of. This alone, so long as the Navigation Act subsists, would effectually keep them dependent on us; 'tis their Interest, 'tis what they desire; 'tis the Happiness of *Great Britain* it should be so, and the Measures here laid down would for ever keep them so. They are *Britons*, or the Descendants of such; they are as useful and loyal Subjects as any other, they deserve the same Esteem with the rest of his Majesty's Subjects: And it is not to be doubted, but that, whenever these Affairs come to be considered, they will be regarded. All Matters relating to them in Parliament deserve a particular Notice, as they have no Representatives there: Yet they are bound and determined by their Acts, and, I am persuaded, think themselves safer by being so subject, than to any other Power or Authority whatever. Those who are in any Degree jealous lest the Plantations should throw off their Subjection to us (if any such there be in Reality) must be extremely ignorant of the different Interests of the several Governments there, which alone is sufficient to keep them divided; but there is not the least Reason to expect they will seek or desire Change, while they are treated like *Britons*. To whom will they apply for
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more Liberty and Property? And for such as have insinuated those as their Apprehensions, and at the same Time have been acquainted with those Countreys, it will be found upon Enquiry, that they have been such as, by their unreasonable Demands, have made the People of those Countreys sensible, that they have preferred their own private Interest to all other Considerations whatsoever.

Such Persons have been justly despised and neglected by them; and such generally, if not always, those have been who represented the Colonies, or our People in *America*, either as disaffected, or inclinable to set up for themselves. The Writer of this hath lived and traded above fourteen Years in those Parts, and sincerely wishes that Disaffection and general Discontent may never appear among his Majesty's Subjects there, or in these Kingdoms. But if such Things should happen, which God forbid, he is persuaded that the People in our Plantations (especially where there are few or no Clergy) would be the last of all his Majesty's Subjects to be deservedly charged with either. Many of them who have gone from hence thither, are too sensible of the Blessings of Liberty, and the Privileges they enjoy above other Nations, to desire a Change; such Men as travel are not so easily deceived and imposed on, as those who
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are always under the Influence of false Teachers; they see where hireling Priests thrive, the Laity are wretched; they soon see what Government is, though in Miniature; they grow in Love with our own Constitution, and hate and despise none but its Enemies; in Proportion to their Numbers, they are perhaps as knowing as any, and as jealous of their Rights. Hence by wicked Governors they have been represented as factious and seditious; and by hireling Priests, as People of fanatical and anti-monarchical Principles. These have been their greatest Enemies, and none but these, and such as these, would be Enemies to an industrious, faithful, frugal, loyal, orderly and brave People, as, without Compliment, we may truly say most of them are.

Spain may justly boast of Possessions in the *Indies*, for their Extent and natural Luxuriancy, exceeding those of all the Princes in *Europe*, or perhaps in the whole World; their Minestoo of Gold as well as Silver there, have afforded them such Quantities of each, that if it were not obvious to our Senses, it would appear incredible, when we pronounced any other Nation rich or powerful in Comparison of them.

But what Effects have these Advantages had on that People? Why, the same that they will always have upon any People in the like Circumstances. The Priests had
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made the People zealous and very superstitious, and such vast Wealth made them supine, indolent, careless and inactive. Nothing but the Church was now to be regarded, all other Considerations were postponed; the Service of the Church and of God, they were taught to believe to be one and the same; Priests increased, as Priests ever will where Money is to be got by their Trade, and they are not limited by the Civil Power. In just proportion to the Numbers and Luxury of the Clergy, in all parts of the Earth generally, and of all Parts, without Exception, where the Christian Clergy are, the People or Laity are industrious and chearful, or lazy and stupid; wealthy and wise, or poor and ignorant; of generous humane Dispositions, or narrow bigotted Conceptions. "Where the Clergy prosper most, that People are most wretched, and to such Prosperity such Wretchedness is owing." From hence we may be able to account for the mean Figure those People have made under Advantages such as no other People can boast of.

Hence may be perceived the Excellence of our Oeconomy and Government, that in Climes less temperate and kind, on Lands less luxuriant and fruitful, unacquainted with Mines of Gold or Silver, our own People enjoy more Happiness and Pleasures, are comparatively more wealthy, are justly e-

steemed more considerable, their Productions from their Labour infinitely more valuable, and their Trade more beneficial to their Native Kingdom, as well as themselves.

In pursuance of my Design, I shall consider the Advantages which we receive from our Sugar Islands; and first I shall begin with *Barbadoes*.

OF what Consequence the Island of *Barbadoes* is to this Kingdom, might in a great measure be estimated from the Amount of the $4\frac{1}{2}$ *perCent.* on their Sugars only, which Sum hath amounted many Years to upwards of 10,000 *l.* a Year, as I have been informed. And the vast Advantage it is of to this Kingdom will farther appear, when we consider the numbers of People which are constantly employed for the supplying of that Island with almost all sorts of our own Manufactures: And if it be farther considered and allowed that not less than 1000 of our own Seamen are constantly employed, on account of that Island only; at a Time too when 200 Tons of Craft, or Shipping, do not require above 20 Men; so that there is not less than 10,000 Tons of Shipping constantly employ'd; which Shipping, or at least three fourths of the whole, if not built in *England*, are always repaired, refitted, victualled and constantly paid here; and it never

ver yet was suggested that one Penny of Money or Bullion was ever carried there from *England*.

Upon this Head we may also allow (what is near the Truth) that what we call the Outsett of every Ship clear for Sea for this Voyage, stands the Owners in 10 *l.* per Ton, and then the Value of the Shipping employed in this Trade will be 100,000 *l.* Now if after all Charges of Insuranc, foreign Port Charges, and the Allowance made for the Wear of the Ship, there is gained but 10 *per Cent.* and supposing (what also may be near the Truth) that upon our own Accounts, we send of our own Manufactures and *East India* Goods, to the Value of 200,000 *l. per Ann.* and that we gain thereby but 10 *per Cent.* then, upon these two Articles, we gain 30,000 *l. per Ann.*

But these are not the only Ways we gain from that Island. A Governor there will find Ways to remit to *England* at the rate of 5,000 *l. per Ann.* and if the Factors there remit but half their Commissions on the above Sum of 200,000 *l.* that will be 10,000 *l. per Ann.* Those Gentlemen in Publick Offices, and others there, who expect to return Home, we will only say remit 5,000 *l. per Ann.* and we will suppose that there constantly are here in *England* at least a hundred Gentlemen of that Island, some for their Pleasure, and others for Education, who do not

live at less Expence than 200 *l. per Ann.* each, which is clear Gain to us 20,000 *l. per Ann.* And if it be allowed that they are in Debt to us the Sum of 100,000 *l.* for which they pay eight *per Cent. per Ann.* Interest, that is clear Gain of 8,000 *l.* more; and if we reckon what we reasonably may, *viz.* the Freight of all Sugars which are again exported, and which are the Produce of this Island only, this will be 7,000 *l.* more. The whole will amount to 95,000 *l. per Ann.* A prodigious Sum to be gained annually from an Island but very little bigger than the Isle of *Wight*. But these are not the only Advantages; which will appear when we treat of the Trade of the Northern Colonies. And if we consider the *African* Trade, much more might be brought to Account of this Island, but as I design to keep within bounds in all my Computations, I will leave it as above at 95,000 *l.* Sterling *per Annum*, over and above the Employment of so many Sailors and Shipping, and the vast number of all sorts of Artificers employed at Home in fitting, repairing and building those Ships, &c. besides those for the Manufactures.

If the Island of *Tobago* belongs to this Kingdom, as I have been credibly informed it does, it will appear as surprizing as any ill Management we have been hitherto
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guilty of, that it hath not been settled by us. An Island which, tho' not quite so large as *Barbadoes*, yet for good Roads, convenient Rivers, and Richness of Soil, is superior to it; and if the Settlement were once accomplished, there is no doubt but the Advantage arising from that small Island for many Years to come, would be very near, if not quite, as considerable to us as the Island of *Barbadoes* now is; because as it is fresh and strong Land, one Acre would produce much more than is now produced by two of old, worn out, poor Land, such as some (and indeed no small Part) of *Barbadoes* now is; and it is allowed by all, that upon good new Land the Labour of fifty Slaves will produce as much Sugar as a hundred will, or can, in *Barbadoes*; tho' the Sugar perhaps will not be so fine.

This Island is in the Latitude of $11^{\text{d}} 5^{\text{m}}$ North, and lies from *Barbadoes* South by West half West, near forty Leagues: Nor is it the worse to be esteemed for lying within twelve Leagues of *Trinidado*, a *Spanish* Island.

The Island of *St. Lucia*, seems to be quite lost to us, and, I am afraid, gained to the *French*; for since they expelled Capt. *Dring*, they are grown much more numerous there than ever they were, before that Settlement was attempted by us.

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The Islands of *St. Vincent* and *Dominico*, are likewise possess'd by the *French*. Their Intercourse with the *Indians* of both those Islands, who generally understand and speak *French*, and who are taught by them to despise all other Nations, with the quiet Possession the *French* continue to keep of those Places, give the People of *Martinico* and *Guadalupe* the pleasing Prospect of seeing all of them settled and fortified by them: Any one of which Islands with regard to its Extent and Fruitfulness, is but very little inferior to *Barbadoes*; and with regard to good Convenience of Roads and Harbours for Shipping, far superior. If we consider the Situation of these Islands, *viz.* *St. Lucia* and *St. Vincent*, they lie both between the Island *Granado* and the Island *Martinico*; the former of which is one of the oldest Settlements the *French* have in that Part, which produces a vast Quantity of Sugar, Cotton and Cocoa. The Island *Dominico* lies next to *Martinico*, and between that and the Islands *Guadalupe*, *Grand-Terre*, *Marigalante* and *Disseada* (all fine and large Islands belonging to the *French*) it will afford but a melancholy Prospect to any one, who has the least Regard to the good and Benefit arising by the Trade to our Plantations, when we consider the prodigious Increase of the *French* in those Islands with-
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in a few Years past; so that we may reasonably reckon that they are not less in number upon these Islands, than the *English* are in all, taking in *Barbadoes* and all the *Leeward* Islands. And if they encourage the Settlement of these Islands, and continue to encrease as they have done, there is great Danger of their Beating us out, and underselling us at all the Markets in *Europe*.

The Consequence of this will be, that whereas we now export to a considerable Value, Sugars and other Commodities, the Produce of our Islands, the whole Freight of which from the *West-Indies* and hence, is actually paid us by such Countrey where such Goods are imported by us: The *French* will in a little Time, if great Care is not taken, supplant us in this Branch also, which is evidently the most advantageous of all. And were the Port of *Dunkirk* to be opened again, we could never expect to supply *Flanders* cheaper than those who import thither directly from *Martinico*, &c.

The *Leeward* Islands (so called with Respect to *Barbadoes*, which is the Easternmost and Windwardmost of all the *West-India* Islands) are numerous, and inhabited by *English*, *French*, *Dutch* and *Danes*. The most considerable of these are *Antegoa*, *St. Christophers*, *Nevis* and *Montserat*, all settled by the *English*. And tho' these four Islands

lands, with Regard to their Bigness and Extent, are equal to three such Islands as *Barbadoes* : And tho' it is well known these Lands in general turn out better Crops than those of *Barbadoes* do, yet because I would not be thought to exaggerate, I shall consider them all, with the Islands *Burbuda*, *Anguilla*, *Tortola* and *Spanish Town*, which are all settled by the *English*, to be all together only of equal Consequence to this Kingdom at present, as the Island of *Barbadoes*, tho' they are capable of vast Improvements.

I shall take Leave in this Place to mention an Affair, for which, if a Remedy could be found, it would be of some Advantage to us. The Island of *St. Eustace*, which is inhabited by the *Dutch*, is not above three Leagues distant from *St. Christophers*, and with Regard to its Extent and Produce very inconsiderable; but its Road is the Place where *Dutch* Interlopers from the Coast of *Africa* seldom fail to call at. In a few Days all our *Leeward* Islands are informed of this. In Places, such as our Islands are, it is not much to be wondered at if there are Persons who run some Hazard for the Hope of a considerable Gain; so that all the ready Money which they can advance at any Rate, is carried by them on Board these Ships, where Negroes are sold to them frequently 20 *per Cent.* cheaper than our own Ships do afford them. This ready Money is a
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great Temptation to some Planters who sell their Sugars to them at less than the current Price; and under Pretence of sending it in Sloops to our own Shipping, it is sent on Board these Interlopers, who by these Means get laden at less Expence than our own Ships, and carry off more Money than a great Number of our own Ships which trade for three Times the Value. By this it is evident that we have really employed a *Dutch* Ship, and have paid her whole Freight out and home in Money, which is just so much lost to the Nation: Nor is that the only Damage, for on Board these Ships are often great Quantities of fine and coarse Linnens, which are sold for ready Money only.

A little Way to Leeward is the Island *Saba*, inhabited by the *Dutch* also. This Island is not to be envy'd for any thing, except the pleasant sandy Shoals round it, where you may see the Ground in twelve Fathom Water, and about seven Leagues to the Southward, and with Hook and Line take what quantity of fine Fish you would desire.

A little Way to the Northward of these two last named Islands lie the Islands of *Sr. Martin* and *St. Bartholomew*; both of them inhabited partly by *French*, partly by *Dutch*:
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The first of these has a regular Fort, is valuable for three Salt-Ponds, which are capable of making vast Quantities of Salt; it produces some Sugar, and a pretty deal of Cotton. *St. Bartholomew* is but a small, uneven Island, not capable of much Improvement.

About twenty Leagues farther to Leeward, lies the Island *Santa Cruce*. To whom it belongs I am not able to determine: The *English* have twice had Possession of it, and have as often been beat out by the *French*. If it be ours, it highly deserves to be settled. In regard to its Bigness, it is but little less than *Barbadoes*; with respect to its Healthfulness, Fertility, Commodiousness of its Roads, and Bays abounding with fine Fish, inferior to none; at present no one is settled there.

Just to the Northward lies the Island *St. Thomas*, which belongs to the *Danes*; remarkable only for its Harbour, which is also a free Port, and was the Residence of the *Affiento* Factors, during some Time that the *French* and *Portuguese* were possess'd of that Contract with *Spain*.

Due West from *St. Thomas* may be seen the Island of *St. John de Porto Rico*, inhabited by a very few *Spaniards*. An Island
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which alone is three times as big as *Barbadoes* and all our *Leeward Islands* put together. It abounds in plenty of wild Cattle, Hogs and Fowl; quite round, in all its Bays is plenty of Fish; in Fruitfulness it is inferior to none. Nor is this Island (like *Jamaica*) in any part unfit for Tillage and Culture; the Mountains rise gradually, and none are inaccessible; a more delightful Prospect than this Island affords as you approach it, cannot be had. Its Figure is near a Parallelogram; its Situation, with regard to Trade with *Europe*, is far preferable to *Hispaniola*, *Cuba* or *Jamaica*; as from hence you are clear as soon as at Sea, neither in Danger from any of the *Bahama* Islands, or at the Trouble of going round by the Channel, commonly called the Gulf of *Florida*. It hath several fine Harbours; the most used at present is that called *Porto Rico*, which lies on the north Side of the Island, at the Entrance of which is a Fort with about twenty Guns, upon a small Island called *Rigoa*, and on the other side is a Castle upon a Rock, with about thirty Guns. There are no other Places in the Island at present fortify'd; and it is thought that if they were to be attacked, they could not find Men enough to man their Guns. There are also many fine Rivers, some of which would be useful for Mills for Sugar-Works, &c. but at present there is not one Work of any

Consequence upon that whole Island. They produce a little Tobacco. Their Governor never denies granting Commissions to any one who asks him, under Pretence of guarding the Coast; and he hath been cruelly belied, if he doth not constantly stipulate for his Share of all that they take; so that any bold Fellow who can get a Sloop, will not fail of such a Commission; and of the very Off-scourings of Mankind doth his Company consist, *viz.* *Irish* Renegadoes, Mustees, Mulattoes and run-away Negroes. Thus equipt, they take all the *English* they can overcome, of which, if any happen to be of any considerable Value, they are sure to be condemned as Prize; if any get clear, it is because they are not of consequence enough to return with, but such they never fail to plunder, even of those things which none but the meanest-spirited Thieves would touch.

Thus does that Place subsist, inhabited by a People at present only remarkable for Sloth, Cruelty and Superstition. A Place, which if it had been one fourth Part of the time settled by an industrious People, would have abounded in Wealth, and become signal for Magnificence.

The next Island of Note is *Hispaniola*, called by the *French* *St. Domingo*. This Island in Length is upwards of 400 Miles,
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in Breadth about 90 Miles, and near equal to a Parallelogram of those Dimensions. It is famous for the first Settlement of *Euro-peans* in *America*, and is now in the Possession of the *French* and *Spaniards*. The latter decrease in Number every Day, and many fine old Houses and Plantations are left desolate. The *French* on the contrary increase to a prodigious Degree, and, with their Slaves, are computed to consist of more than twice the Number of the *Spaniards*, with their Slaves. They are in Possession of the greatest Part of the Island already, and the few remaining *Spaniards* look upon the whole Island as gone to the *French*, upon the first Rupture between those Crowns.

The almost amazing Improvements which the *French* have made here since the Reign of King *William*, shew what great Things may be done by an able Minister, even under an arbitrary Prince. Sir *Josiah Child*, in his excellent Discourse on Trade, Page 198, says, that neither the *French*, *Spaniards*, or *Portuguese*, are much to be feared on Account of Planting; and there gives his Reasons, which indeed were good, according to the Appearance at that Time. But as the *French* in particular have since changed their Measures, and with the greatest Skill and Diligence have applied themselves toward improving what they had found

found to be of such signal Advantage and Utility to the Kingdom of *Great-Britain*: And as they still go on to give the greatest Encouragement to their People to go over and settle there, not only paying their Passage, but subsisting them at the publick Charge for a whole Year, many Thousands within a very few Years past have been carried over there, near forty Thousand, as I have been informed. Their Design indeed appeared to be the encouraging of their new Settlements on the *Mississippi*; and it has had this twofold Effect, they have gained their End in having made many powerful Settlements up that River, and have added a vast Number of Hands to their more valuable Settlement in *Hispaniola*. The Effect of all this is obvious to any one who hath the least Acquaintance with the *West-India* Trade, and hath been severely felt by our own Plantations. They are now become our Rivals and Competitors in that valuable Branch of our Sugars; and there is not a Place in *Europe* that they do not attempt to supply with that Commodity. They have so far outdone us in the Production of Indigo, that it is much to be questioned whether our own Planters will produce enough for our own Use. The Industry and parsimonious living of the *French* is not the only Reason why they undersell us; we navigate cheaper, and
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our Planters produce as cheap; and if our Sugars could be carried directly to the last Market, as theirs are, we should have an Advantage over them. It is computed by some who have traded there from our Plantations for many Years past, that the Produce of the *French* upon this Island lately, hath exceeded in Value the whole Produce of the Island of *Jamaica*. But I hope our Plantations merit our best Care and Protection, and will be thought worthy of all those Advantages which the *French* now enjoy. For if the *French* go on at this Rate, and our own Plantations be neglected by us their Mother Countrey, then must they necessarily decay, in Proportion as the *French* flourish. For no Thing, Person or Nation is considerable but by Comparison; and the *French* at present seem to be the People who are laying a Foundation for the Employment of Multitudes of their People, in a more profitable Way than ever was known before to them; namely, that of making one part of their People in the *Indies* be the Cause of employing much greater Numbers at home; beside that this is the only Means by which they can be considerable at Sea. This Island alone is of more Value than all the Possessions which we have, or pretend to, in those Parts. It abounds with Plenty of Cattle and Hogs, hath many fine Harbours,

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Roads, Bays, and Rivers; and, if we except *Cuba*, as far exceeds all the rest of the *West-India* Islands, as *Jamaica* doth the meanest of ours.

About thirty Leagues to the Westward of this delightful Island, lies the Island of *Jamaica*, in Length a Hundred and fifty Miles, in Breadth about fifty Miles. We shall be able to form some Judgment of the Importance of this Island, by the Quantity of its own Produce annually shipped off to us; namely, in Sugar 10000 Tons, in Cotton, Indigo, Ginger, Pimento, Rum, Lime-juice, Cocoa, Mahogany Wood, &c. 2000 more. By this it will appear, that there is not less than 12000 Tons of our own Shipping constantly employed in that Service only, over and above what is employed between that Island and the Northern Plantations; all which, excepting that they do not fit and repair here, are of the same Benefit and Advantage to this Kingdom in all other Respects. But of this more particularly, when I treat of the Northern Colonies. And because I would not be suspected of favouring or flattering my self in my Design, which is to shew the great Benefit and Advantage arising to this Kingdom from our own Plantations, I will only consider this Island, as a Sugar Plantation, to be of the same Advantage to us as *Barbadoes*, tho' very

very capable of being improved to ten, if not twenty Times that Value.

But to demonstrate the Advantages arising from the Trade of that Place, between the *English* and *Spaniards*, I must beg Leave to give an Account of the Rise of that Trade, its Manner of being carried on, and how we first came to lose it, in some Measure, to the *Dutch*. From the Treaty between *Great-Britain* and *Spain*, for settling a Peace in *America*, concluded at *Madrid*, July 18, 1670. which was ratified by Sir *William Godolphin* on the Part of *England*, and the Count *De Pagnaranda* on the Part of *Spain*, till the Year 1702, a very considerable Trade was carried on by the *English* from *Jamaica*, without any material Interruption; and by that Trade only for Goods, Negroes and Flour, we received, as it has been computed, from 250 to 300 Thousand Pounds a Year; when, for what Reasons I never could learn, Instructions, I am told, were sent to the Governor of *Jamaica* to hinder any Trade being carried on by our People with the *Spaniards*, pursuant to a Treaty between us and the *Dutch*, whereby both Parties agreed not to trade with the *French* or *Spaniards*. Indeed I have not been able to find any such Treaty relating to the *Spaniards*; but the Truth is, that about that Time several Sloops, with their Companies which had

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used the Sloop Trade upon the Coast, &c. out of *Jamaica*, went to *Corasoa*, where they were well received: And these, I have been informed, were the first who let the *Dutch* into the Sloop Trade; for till that Time the *Dutch* used to trade only with great Ships, from thirty to forty or fifty Guns, and two or three hundred Men each. This proved some Damage to that Island, but in a few Years after their Trade increased; and by the Success of their Trade and Privateers, to which we may add the great Quantities of Money taken by the Men of War, a great Part of which was spent in the Island, all Things became brisk, which brought vast Numbers of People to the Island: So that toward the End of the War in 1712, there were not less than four Thousand Seamen employed in Privateers, and trading Sloops, out of, or belonging to that Island. Most of these upon the Place separated; some went into Merchantmen, others down to the Bay of *Campeachy* to cut Logwood; which Place, by the Way, seems to have been the rightful Possession of the Crown of *Great Britain*, and was secured to the Crown by the 7th Article of the abovesaid Treaty, as we were then in Possession, and as the said Place never was possessed by the *Spaniards* before, though they have since taken it from us.

The Island of *Jamaica* flourished till the Year 1716, and a considerable Trade was carried on, to near as great a Value as ever was before; and they employed from twelve to fifteen hundred Men in that Trade, which was a great Defence upon Occasion, as well as a Benefit accruing to them from so many Men spending their Money there. And indeed no small Number of these were properly Inhabitants, as being either married, or born there. But in the Year 1716, when the *Assiento* Factors settled in the *West-Indies*, that Trade, which was of such prodigious Advantage to that Island, and by which they could gain from twenty-five to thirty *per Cent.* Monthly, and which was generally allowed to bring in from three to four hundred thousand Pistoles a Year, was, tho' not quite destroyed, yet so affected thereby, as to be rendered very inconsiderable and more precarious: So that it is thought at present, that by the *Assiento* Company, and private Traders together, there are not near one half of the People now employed that used to be. The ill Effects of this upon the Island of *Jamaica* are visible and palpable. Whether this *Assiento* Company have made a better hand on't since they have been concerned; deserves the Enquiry of those who regard the Publick Good. They hitherto have not enjoyed one half of their Time free in Trade,

and yet are obliged to pay the whole Duties to the King of *Spain*, conformable to their Contract, with all other their excessive Charges so constantly increasing. In short, if the Company can make it appear that they have got any thing by the Contract, they ought to go on and be encouraged; but if it should appear that the Nation has lost by the Bargain, and that one of the most valuable Trades and Islands which we have abroad is well nigh ruined, or in Danger thereby; in stead of suing to the *Spaniards* for their Favour in granting us a Trade, which some apprehend to be so much to our Advantage, it is high time to get off from the Contract, and make sure of that which we know hath been, and may again be beneficial.

If we wanted Instruction, the *Dutch* would shew us the Way. It will be allow'd that they trade for a greater Value than we ever did. The Writer of this hath seen at one time in the Harbour of *Curaçoa*, two and twenty Sail of trading Ships, from twenty four to forty Guns each, and at the same time hath known several others to be upon the Coast trading; and their Sloop Trade is generally pretty brisk, for seldom a Ship or Sloop returns from the Coast which doth not bring Orders for such Goods, and in such manner, that in a few Days another is sent. They are always informed too what they

they are to expect in return, both as to sort and quantity, with regard to the Place too; namely, from one Place Hides and Tallow, from another Cocoa, from another Fustic, or other dye Woods, from another perhaps Mules and Horses, from others, Tobacco's, Balsams, and several sorts of Spices and Drugs; all which, and many more that might be named, they trade for as frequently as for Pieces of Eight or Pistoles, and by that means create a prodigious Trade.

Hither resort *French* as well as *English*; hence both *French* and *English* Plantations have been supplied with Mules and Horses; here is a Market for all sorts of Provisions when they are cheap in our own Islands, such as Bread, Flower, Beer, Hams, Butter, Cheese, Beef, Pork, *Indian* Corn, &c. and consequently for Rum and Sugar. Here is a greater Resort of Shipping than to any of our Islands; here are found the best Conveniencies for repairing, careening, fitting and accommodating of Ships, in any Part of the *Indies*. On the windwardmost Part of the Island is a Watch House, and on the Approach of all Ships or Vessels Signals are given from thence to the Garrison. And as the Entrance into the Harbour is narrow and difficult, Attendance is always given by the Company's Master (who is an Officer not unlike a Master-Attendant in one of our Yards) to assist every Ship or Vessel without

without Distinction: He is perfectly well acquainted with and understands the Business. This Officer takes to his Assistance as many Hands as he thinks proper, according to the Bigness of the Ship or Vessel, and with a Boat and Warp ready, he waits the Approach of the Ship, upon which an experienced, clever Fellow from the Boat jumps on board you, fastens the End of the Warp, whips aft to the Helm, and in a few Minutes your Ship, be she of any Bigness, is in her appointed Birth, in as fine, and one of the most secure Harbours in the whole World. This Officer in case of any Dispute about Ships, Births, and Moorings, ends them; for he is obliged without Distinction to see every Ship and Vessel accommodated according to its Due in all Respects; so that very few Controversies happen. They have perhaps the most quick and summary Way of deciding Suits and Controversies of any People, such as seems very proper for so wary and understanding People. The Complainant gives the Fiscal (an Officer somewhat like our Sheriff) a Fee of a Piece of Eight, and then acquaints him with his Case; upon which, if the Fiscal thinks the Complainant hath any Ground, Cause or Reason for it, he advertises the Defendant, and acquaints him that if he doth not do the Complainant Reason and Justice, he shall proceed to acquaint the Governor

Governor and Council (who are the Court, and are supposed to be always sitting) and acquaints him at what Time. If this Notice can be proved, the Defendant is obliged to attend, or is liable to arbitrary Punishment. When they appear, both Parties have the Liberty, either by themselves or any other Person who will do it without Fee, to defend or maintain, as they shall see convenient. As most of the Disputes which happen are about Contracts and Bargains, and the Court generally Men who understand those things very well, they are soon decided; and perhaps there never was an Instance, where any indifferent and understanding Man had any Reason to find any Fault with their Decisions and Judgments. They have two excellent Qualifications, they are quick and cheap; for if the Complainant gains his Cause, the Fiscal returns him that very Fee again, so that he cannot possibly be at any Charge; and sometimes the Court appoint the Defendant to pay him the Complainant for the extraordinary Trouble he hath given him, and *e contra*. To describe justly their admirable Oeconomy in Trade, &c. would require more Room than I propose in this. At one Time you will see of all Sorts of Shipping from fifty to seventy Sail, sometimes more. When one of these trading Ships comes out of *Holland*, she hath what we may call three
Cargoes

Cargoes on board, worth very often from 60 to 70000 *l.* Sterling and upwards; on her Arrival at *Curaçoa* two of these Cargoes are put on Shore, and the Ship sails and trades for the other; at her Return she Careens and Refits, and takes another, so to the third: In the mean Time, whatever Lumbering or bulky Commodities is brought from the Coast or elsewhere, is sent Home to *Holland* in Vessels of Burden only (which sail very cheap) and the Money and more valuable Commodities in these Traders and Ships of Force. It sometimes happens that after taking the last Cargoe on board, the Ship doth not return to *Curaçoa*, but will try to trade upon the Coast clear down to Leeward, and at last at the *South-Keys* on *Cuba*, from whence they go directly for *Holland*.

These Ships are well manned, and are kept under as regular and strict Discipline as our Ships of War. Among the great Numbers that have traded, and for so long a Time too, few, very few have ever been surprized or taken; the *Spanish Guard de Costas* know that they will fight, and therefore don't disturb them often.

The Reader's Expectation may be raised, and think, perhaps, this must surely be a very valuable Island; yet, except the Convenience of its Harbour, it is one of the worst in the whole World. It is thought that all the
Soil

Soil upon it is not equal (the Surface we mean) to two Miles square; at least three fourths of the whole is so barren a Rock, that there is not any green Thing upon it for the Accommodation and Pleasure of many Gentlemen of the Island. Many Sloop Loads of Earth have been brought from the Main thither, which they are very careful of, and dispose into Gardens, &c. A Years natural Produce of this Island would not maintain the Inhabitants one Week; their principal Dependence for fresh Stock, Provisions, Fruits and Greens, is from the Islands of *Boneiray* and *Aruba*. The first, about eight Leagues to Windward, is about five or six Leagues long and three or four broad, abounds with Plenty of Cattle, Goats and Fowl, also Guanas, an Animal like a green Lizard, but often as large as a Rabbet, and better Food; with these and Fruits, such as Bonanas and Plantains, Oranges, &c. and Roots, as Yams, Potatoes, Edys, &c. they constantly supply the Market of *Curaçoa*, and have pretty much the same too from *Aruba*, but not so certainly, as it is farther distant and to Leeward, viz. about 12 Leagues. This last is a small Island not exceeding five Leagues in Circumference; they both belong to the *Dutch West-India* Company, as doth the Island *Curaçoa*. The Care and Government of each of these two former Islands is committed to a single Person call-

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ed Commadore, who is appointed by the Governor of *Curaſſoa*; their Salaries are very ſmall, not exceeding ten Pieces of Eight *per* Month, and their Perquiſites much leſs; for unleſs ſometimes a Dram of Brandy or Rum, or Part of a Bowl of Punch, they are Strangers to Fees and Bribes. To theſe is committed the Government of all the People, who are *Indians* deſcended from thoſe of *Hiſpaniola*, near St. *Domingo*. To theſe Iſlands, before uninhabited, theſe People's Anceſtors fled from the Cruelty of the *Spaniards*. They are honeſtly treated by the *Dutch*, and ſeem very chearful and well ſatiſfied; theſe are they who tend the Cattle and Stock upon the Iſland. For Shape and Beauty they far exceed moſt *Indians*: Their Numbers on both Iſlands do not exceed five or ſix hundred Men, Women and Children. It's cuſtomary when Markets do not anſwer, to put Mules on both theſe Iſlands, ſo that they often have three or four hundred at a Time on *Boneiray*, which are ready on any Demand; and at *Aruba* there is, perhaps, as fine a Breed of Horſes as any in the World; the late King of *France* ſent on purpoſe for ſome of them, which, I have been told, anſwered his Expectation.

The Iſland of *Cuba* is in many Reſpects the moſt valuable of all the *West-India* Iſlands,

Islands, whether we regard its Extent of two hundred Leagues in Length, and twenty five Leagues in Breadth, or its Situation from the nineteenth to the twenty third Degree of Northern Latitude; or the Richness of the Soil; or the almost incredible Numbers of Cattle which are killed for their Hides and Tallow only, though their Flesh be as good as any in the World; or the Number of fine Harbours, Bays and Rivers; or above all the Haven, or in *Spanish Havana*, (as it is called by way of Eminence) as this Place is the Rendezvous of all *Spanish* Shipping bound from any Part of *New-Spain* to the Leeward of *Caracos* to *Old-Spain*. This Harbour is strongly fortified, especially to the Sea; yet some Gentlemen, who know that Place very well, have been of Opinion, that such a Squadron as Admiral *Hofier's* was, would have taken it with the Loss of fewer Men than perished off of *Porto Bello*.

The Improvements upon this Island are neither so good in their Nature or Tendency as in our own Islands. Here are more Churches than good Plantations, more Priests than industrious Planters, and more idle, lazy, superstitious Bigots, than active, diligent, useful, working and laborious People. Hence this large, luxuriant and populous Island, beside Food for themselves, which is easier obtained and produced than

perhaps in any other part of the whole World, doth not produce for Exportation, including their Hides and Tallow, Tobacco and Snuff, with all other things whatever, near the Value of our little Island *Antegoa*. It is the Fleets calling, and lying sometimes for several Weeks at the *Havana*, which makes such a Circulation of Money, and it is the Money that Way obtained, which enables them to trade at the *South Keys*, &c. 'Tis true that the Captures of so many of our Ships and Sloops ever since the Year 1712, have made the People in the Ports of *Trinidad*, *St. Jago*, *Baracoa*, *Port Prince* on *Cuba*, the People of *Porto Rico* and the *Margarites*, &c. think themselves a very considerable People, as many of them have grown rich by those Captures. For those *Spanish Garde Costas* (as they must be called) are of no great Value; one of them is, for Example, a Sloop of no more than two hundred Pistoles Value, with a little jerkt Beef, a few Yams and Potatoes, one Barrel of Powder, two or three hundred weight of old Iron for Shot, and manned by the most infamous Scoundrels that such Places afford, *viz. Irish Rapparees, French Banditti, Mulattoes, Mustees and run-away Negroes*: Such as these to the Number of forty, fifty, and sometimes fourscore, in such Vessel, take all the *English Ships* that they can, whether on their Coast or not; and

and seldom are at a Loss for Reason or Cause to condemn them. If they have nothing on board of the Produce of their Countries, and for which (they say) by their Laws they could condemn them, *viz.* for having on board any Cocoa, Logwood, Fustic and Tobacco, &c. or any Money of their Coin; yet if the Vessel have but Bread and Flour, or even any sort of dry Goods, they never fail condemning her, as a Vessel that either had traded or intended it; so that none escape being carried in, but light Vessels, and these they never fail to plunder.

Some say that the *Affiento* Company may suffer, if we should resent these Injuries as we used to do. There was always as much Reason to apprehend that our Merchants in *Spain* would suffer before. Had we not always when we traded with *Spain*, Effects in their Dominions to a great Value? Or is our Gain so great by the *Affiento* Contract, that we had better be silent than run the Hazard of ruffling their Tempers by making a proper Demand? If any one will make this appear, he will effectually silence some of the greatest Sufferers, and convince a great number who think the contrary most probable. Before that Contract was entered into, I can demonstrate that we had more Advantage by our Trade with *Spain*, and her Dominions, than any other Nation;

Nation; and yet were not, or did not seem to be, more afraid of them than of other Nations. The Advantages between us were mutual; we supplied them cheaper than other People, and accomodated them better; therefore in the *West Indies*, where we traded with them Sword in Hand, and they saw no farther Obligation we had to them; they were well contented, placed a great deal of Confidence in us, and were afraid, or had no Inclination to distress us: But now, whether they look on the Effects of the *Assiento* Company as a Pawn or Pledge against our resenting their Usage, and treating them as they deserve, or what else, I should be glad to see explained. There is not a Power on Earth that *Spain* has more Reason to fear than that of *England*, but by what unaccountable Means it has happened that they have ventured to dare us so far, seems amazing. Yet if after all a Peace can be effected, and reasonable Satisfaction given to just Sufferers, we will not fail to acknowledge, notwithstanding all that hath happened, that it was more prudent to suffer than to enter at once into a War, the Consequence of which is not so easy to account for.

If I can be so happy as once to put the Gentlemen of this Kingdom upon taking these things under their serious Consideration, I shall have gained all I propose.
There

There is nothing advanced here with any other Design but the real Service of my Countrey; and I humbly hope that what is contained here will appear to be wrote with that Design only. Just above I mentioned the Island of *Margarites*, so called from a Pearl Fishery upon a Shoal at the West End of the Island, where vast Quantities of Pearl were formerly taken. This Island is above twice as big as *Barbadoes*; has one good Harbour, and several good Roads, and is inhabited by *Spaniards*, just such as those on *Porto Rico*. They produce Cocoa and Tobacco; but are miserably poor upon a very rich Soil, as People generally are where the Clergy are numerous. Here are several Churches, and a hundred times more Superstition than Trade or Industry. In short, the whole Produce of this Island in a Year for Exportation, is not of equal Value to one Ship's Loading of one of our *Jamaica* Ships; yet from hence too are Commissions given to *Garde Costas*.

As I have mentioned all the inhabited Islands of note, for the rest I shall refer the Reader to the Map, where he may see them all together.

The *Bahama* Islands, which are very numerous, and capable of producing all things necessary for Life, are all owned by the *English*, and some few of them are inhabited,

bited, *viz.* *Providence, Illethera, Harbour-Island* and *Green Turtle Key*. The most considerable for Extent and Richness of Soil is the Island of *Abaco*; but it hath not yet been settled, nor indeed do I apprehend that any great Advantages could accrue to this Kingdom by those Islands were they all inhabited; yet I think it not improper to keep up the Government already there, only as it prevents their becoming a Nest of Pyrates.

Those Islands produce *Brazilletta Wood*, *Lignum Vitæ*, *Cortex Winteriana*, Salt, and on the Shores have been frequently found the *Sperma-Ceti-Whales* and *Amber-gris*; which last I have been credibly informed is the Excrement of that Whale: A whole Sloop's Company agreed in the Relation of that Fact to me in *South Carolina*, where they brought many Barrels of *Sperma-Ceti* (I saw at least thirty) and above five hundred Pounds of *Amber-gris*, all which they assured me came from one Whale. The *Sperma-Ceti* undoubtedly did, the *Amber-gris* they had Reason to think did so too, because they found it near the Place where they found the Whale, and they all agreed that the Excrement of that very Whale, which was found in the Gut near the *Anus*, was really *Amber-gris*, tho' not quite so good as that which was found on the Shore and floating in the Water.

This

This I believed when I was told it, for I saw no Interest or Pleasure they had or proposed in deceiving me, or many others, which I often heard them tell it to. Here too are found the prettiest and greatest Variety of Shells that any Part of the World produces. Upon the whole, except for keeping out of Pyrates, I don't think these Islands worth inhabiting, while we have so much of as fine a Countrey as any in the World uninhabited, I mean the Province of *South Carolina*. But before I attempt the Description of that Countrey, I will give a short Account of what is now called *Florida*.

Florida is bounded to the North by *South-Carolina*, to the East by that Part of the *Atlantic Ocean* called, by the *English*, *The Gulf of Florida*, to the South and South West by the *Gulf of Mexico*, and by Lands already possessed by the *French* to the Westward. Besides the *Indians*, who upon all this Tract of Land, are not supposed to be a 100 Men fit for War, there are but three Settlements of the *Spaniards*. The Principal of them is at *Fort Augustine* in the Latitude of thirty Degrees North. The Fort or Castle is a Square fortified with two Lunets, and two Pentagon Bastions, and hath had forty Guns mounted, yet was very near being taken by the *Carolina* People

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ple in the Year under the Command of Colonel *Moore*; for they besieged it, and had made a Breach which would have been attacked the next Day, but for Relief which was sent from the *Havana*, which the *English* apprehended to have been ten times as strong as they really were, and therefore retired with some Precipitation. *Augustine* had more effective Men than it is allowed they now have; yet seven hundred of our People destroyed their Town, and had, in all Probability, taken the Fort, but for those Succours. I have been told by several Men of *Augustine*, with whom I have conversed, that they can Muster in all four or five hundred Men, by taking in those of all Ages. Every Person there, Man, Woman and Child, receives Pay from the King of *Spain*, notwithstanding which, and that they are in so happy a Climate, and upon no unfruitful Soil, they are poor wretched and miserable. They do not produce half their own Provisions, nor have they any Plantations farther than a Gun-Shot from the Fort. They sometimes come to *Carolina*, under Pretence of Flag a Truce, or Business, and lay out their Money there for dry Goods and Provisions; and many very profitable Voyages have been made thither from *Carolina*.

It is my Opinion, that if the *Florida Indians* were but civilly treated by the *English*,

lish, they would be glad to come under their Protection. We can supply them with all they want cheaper than the *Spaniards* can; but one Advantage, and only one, the *Spaniards* have over the *English* there, which is this: They treat the *Indians* there as Christians, and persuade them they are so; their Priests instruct their Children even in *Indian* Towns, and live among them for some Time: Our People treat them like Brutes, by not admitting their Evidence in any wise to affect the most scoundrel white Man. Our Priests, though I have been told some of them have been sent over by a Society for propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts, never go among the *Indians*; nor did I ever hear of any one *Indian* converted to the Christian Faith by an *English* Priest, except by Doctor *Mather* in *New-England*, who from the Joy of his Heart boasted the Conversion of two *Indians* to the Christian Faith, and as a Demonstration of his Care and Pains, desired an *English* Gentleman (who told me this himself) and one who had frequently communicated with the Doctor, to accompany him that Day, when he expected those two *Indians* to communicate also, which they did with tolerable Decency. The Gentleman was highly pleased, and expressed his Satisfaction, when the Doctor unluckily asked one of the *Indians* a Question which he had not taught him to an-

swer, namely; How do you find yourself? are you not much refresh'd inwardly? don't you find yourself easier after having received? To which the poor *Indian* answered, Yes, but Rum is better. The Doctor was a little ruffled, and in an angry Tone bid him be gone. I lived several Years at a Time, and have traded above twenty Years there, and never heard of any other Conversion, tho' I have often enquired, having been informed that there was a Society spent a great Deal of Money upon that Account every Year.

What Notions *Indians* entertain of Religion, I confess I have never been able to learn, and yet I have conversed with many of them; this I have experienced, that they are in general benevolent and grateful; they will place great Confidence in white Men who use them justly, and will defend such at the apparent hazard of their Lives. I have known some white Men who trade with the *Indians*, in so high Esteem among some Nations, that the *Indians* would treat as Enemies all who appeared to be so to those Traders: And it was owing to one of these honest Traders, that a Peace was concluded between the People of *Carolina* and their Enemy *Indians*; Enemies who were made so by the cruel and unjust Treatment of our own People, to whom they had complained and remonstrated with-

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out redress, nay, even without having any Notice taken of them ; this Man singly and alone ventured among a People who had resolved the Destruction of that Colony, or to perish. This Man whom they knew to be honest, who never had deceived them, was received by those Savages with respect ; he was believed in all he said ; he had Authority to assure them, that they should have Redress, and that was all they desired. A Peace was concluded, a flourishing Colony relieved from the Calamities of a horrid War, by the Means of a poor honest brave Fellow, who was always highly esteemed and beloved by them, and deserved to be so by all Mankind. I never hear'd of any Cruelty committed by the *Indians* in my Time, where they had not received repeated Provocations : Was there ever an Instance of the *Pensilvanian Indians* doing any Damage to the People of that Province ? No, the *Indians* are there treated with Humanity, they call the People of *Pensilvania* Brethren, and by the Laws of *Pensilvania* the *Indians* are treated as such.

The next Settlement in *Florida* is at the Mouth of the *Apalachian* River, called *St. Joseph*, where there is a Fort which was built in the Year 1718, but of no great Strength, it being thought there is not above five hundred Inhabitants, Men, Women and Children.

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The other Settlements are a few Villages near the Cape of *Florida*, but thinly inhabited; so few, that I never heard a *Spaniard* reckon that in all there were more than a thousand Men of that Nation in *Florida*; all of them are poor and miserable, in a Country where People of less Superstition and more Industry, might live luxuriously.

I Shall now speak of our Plantations on the Continent; and shall begin with *South Carolina*, which is capable of being made the most valuable Province in *North America*: It is now the largest, being seventy Leagues front on the Sea from *Cape Fear*, the Northernmost Bounds, to the River *May*, where was lately an *English* Fort, built by Order of General *Nicholson*. The Climate is so good that for eight Months in the Year no Place exceeds it; the other four Months, *May*, *June*, *July*, and *August*, are very hot, and produce much Thunder; yet no Place is more healthful. The Soil in general is sandy, out of which is produced all manner of *English* Grain in great Perfection, as well as Rice, *Indian-Corn*, &c.. Nor doth any Place exceed it for fine Fruits. Near the Banks of Rivers there is strong, rich Land, which produces Hemp in as great Perfection as any in the World. Mulberry-Trees of all sorts grow in vast Quantities, and are of prodigious

gious quick Growth. So that it has already been shewn by many People that no Place is more capable of producing better Silk, and with more Ease. The chief of their Exports at present are Rice, Deer-Skins, Pitch, Tarr, Turpentine, Beef, Pork, tann'd Leather, Cedar Wood, Deal Boards, Pipe Staves, Timber of all Sorts, Matts, Yards, &c. And some few Ships have been built there, and those as good as any that ever were built in *America*. It must be allowed that no Place is more capable or convenient for building of Ships ; for the Countrey abounds with fine Timber, and has as many fine Rivers as any Part of the known World.

As I am unacquainted with the Depth of Water in all the Rivers to the Southward of *Port Royal*, tho' I have known Sloops fail into most of them, I will only relate what I know from my own Experience of the following Rivers: And therefore begin with *Port Royal* River. There is Water enough for any Ship in the World, in or out, and as good a Harbour as any that Nature hath made, sufficient to hold and contain all the Royal Navy; and perhaps in all Respects the properest Place of Rendezvous for the *West India* Squadron of Men of War. With regard to its Situation, for any Expedition to the Windward Islands, or for speaking with any Ships coming

ing thro' the Gulf of *Florida*, it is as well as can be desired; nothing could escape the Sight of a Cruiser there. The next is *South Edisto*, a good River for Ships and Vessels not drawing above twelve Foot. *North Edisto* is equally good, and hath a clear Entrance. *Stone* is a very good Harbour for any thing not above eleven Foot. *Charles-Town* Harbour for any Vessel not exceeding fifteen Foot. *Sewee* and *Santee* Rivers for small Craft not drawing more than eight or nine Foot. Into *Winniauw* I have been lately told there is a Channel of twelve Foot. *Cape Fear* River, *alias Clarendon* River, which are the Bounds between the *Carolina's*, is a very fine bold River for any Ship in fair Weather; or at any time for any one not exceeding fifteen or sixteen Foot, for there is not less than three Fathom at low Water, in the worst of the Channel. There are many other Rivers and Creeks of lesser note than these mentioned, but these are all large Rivers, some of them navigable forty or fifty Miles above the Entrance, for Ships of any Burthen, and some of them run above a hundred Miles in the Countrey, all abounding with fine Fish.

The Number of white People, Men, Women and Children, in the Year 1724, was about 14,000; the Slaves (most of which are Negroes) Men, Women and Children included

about 32,000, and no doubt they are now encreased, for there has been many Negroes imported there since.

In the Year 1723, the Imports to this Province amounted to the Value of one hundred and twenty thousand Pounds Sterling, first Cost in Goods and Merchandize, and had not been less yearly for four Years before.

This Estimate was made from the Country Collector's Books, who received a Duty of two and a half *per Cent.* on all Goods imported; so that if any Fraud was committed by false Report, the Imports were so much more.

The Quantity of *British* Shipping employed by means of this Province, is not less than 8,000 Tons. *England* hath received annually from this Colony only, in Skins, Furs, Rice, Pitch, Tarr, Turpentine, Pipe-Staves, &c. exclusive of all Bounty, to the Value of 200,000 *l.* Sterling. The Freight of such Shipping would not amount to above 24,000 *l.* and there is Profit upon that at least ten *per Cent.* *i. e.* 2,400 *l.* So that if I were to state the Account between *South Carolina* and *Britain*, it would stand thus,

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Imported

Imported from <i>Carolina</i> to	}	200,000
<i>Great Britain</i> of their		
Produce annually ———		
In Cash, admitting sixty Ships,	}	1,200
each Ship to bring but		
twenty Pounds, ———		
		<hr/>
		201,200

Goods sent to <i>Carolina</i>	}	100,000
annually from this		
Kingdom, ———		
The real Expence of	}	21,600
8,000 Tons of Ship-		
ping for such Voyage		
		<hr/>
		121,600
		<hr/>
		121,600

The whole Gain to this King-	}	79,600
dom by <i>Carolina</i> will be annu-		
ally ———		

And so much I really believe and think this Kingdom doth gain from that Province. The *Indian* Trade there being of such exceeding Advantage, and frequently carried on by the Servants of those who live here, all the Profits thereof are sent here by those who design to return to this Kingdom. The other 20,000 *l.* worth of their Imports, I take to be brought in their own and other trading Vessels from the *West India*

dia Islands and northern Colonies. When they trade at any of the *French* Islands, besides Rum and Sugar they bring some Money; I have known a small Sloop bring in there from Cape *François* at one Time 300 Pistoles, beside Rum, Sugar and Molosses, which were the Produce of her own Cargo only. This *French* Trade supplies them with Rum and Molosses at cheaper Rates than they could be supplied from our own Islands, by which Means they are able to carry on the *Indian* Trade, which they cannot do with near so much Advantage when Rum is dear, the *Indians* being used to give a certain Quantity of Skins for a certain Quantity of Rum; and without Rum there can be no Trade carried on with them.

I cannot estimate the Shipping employ'd and owned by this Colony, at less than seven hundred Tons, beside the Ships which come to *England*; they are all of equal Advantage to *Britain* except that they do not fit and repair here, but are as absolutely beneficial in all other Respects; for whatever is gained in Money or Commodities of any Sort or Kind, after their own Necessities are supplied, is sent always Home to *Britain*, and there only centers. It is certain that all the Money which our People in the Plantations acquire by Means of their Trade with any People whatsoever, is constantly

transmitted here, even to the putting themselves under the Necessity of establishing a Paper Currency, as many of them have already done.

All Manner of Provisions are extremely cheap in *South-Carolina*, insomuch that the Shipping at *Charles-Town* are supply'd all the Year round with Beef at less than seven Shillings Sterling *per* hundred Weight; and it would seem incredible, should one relate the prodigious Quantities of Fish, and the cheap rate, at which that Market is supplied with them. In short, the whole Country is capable of vast Improvement; there seems to be nothing wanting but People to make it much the most considerable Settlement his Majesty hath on the Continent of *America*. The Lands upon or near the Banks of navigable Rivers are already possessed or laid out; for it hath been customary to run out such Lands by a Surveyor, and the purchase Money hath been paid for seldom more than fifty or sixty Acres, when the Purchaser really possessed a hundred. There are many People who I know are contented with such Title, and many more, who have no other Title than using and possessing large Tracts of Land, now think them their own: This has been so generally practised, that I am of Opinion, it would be difficult to get a fair Rent-Roll by any Means, in that Country, and therefore think
that

that a *British* Act of Parliament might extend, to entitle any Person to any such Quantity of Land as they could find, (so unjustly possessed) upon the Conditions of Plantations, that is to say, at forty Shillings *per* hundred Acres Purchase, and a Penny *per* Acre quit Rent *per Ann.* This would put every one, who was able, upon securing his Title, or it would soon be justly possessed by another; this would bring in a very great Sum, aver and above what is now due, according to Grants; tho' I believe that if the Quit-Rents of Lands now possessed, were regularly and punctually paid, they alone would be worth all the purchase Money given for the Countrey; for there cannot be less than two Millions of Acres, within what we call the Settlement; that is to say, from *Winniarw* to *Port-Royal*, not to mention more to the Southward, or *Cape Fear* Settlement. And if we allow one Half of that for Seigniories, Landgravates and Baronies, there will remain, at least, a Million of Acres; and if those were all reckoned at a Half-Penny *per* Acre, it will amount to above 2000*l.* *per Ann.* The purchase Money which remains unpaid for many Thousands of Acres, taken up after the Manner aforesaid, would arise to no small Sum; not to mention the daily Purchases which would still be made, as the Countrey encreased in Inhabitants. Now could a Way
be

be found out for the ready Payment of the Quit-Rents, it would a great Relief to that Countrey, which has but very little Chance to get any Gold or Silver ; namely, by making Pitch or Tar, a legal Tender for their Quit-Rents, (which his Majesty's Navy will always want :) For Example, if they could not pay Money, a Barrel of Pitch at six Shillings, and a Barrel of Tar at four Shillings and six Pence ; this would be, as Times now are, a pretty just Equivalent ; or if the Country would agree to pay according to the Custom of *Maryland*, as an Equivalent for their Quit-Rents, nine Pence *per* Barrel upon Rice, and three Pence *per* Barrel upon Pitch and Tar, to be paid after the Manner of *Maryland* Duties ; or if they were set at a lower Rate, the Government would be sufficient Gainers.

North-Carolina is bounded by *Cape Fear*, alias *Clarendon River* to the Southward, and by *Virginia* to the Northward, about forty or fifty Leagues, fronting the Sea. The Soil, Climate, Produce and Situation of it, ought (it's presumed) to bring it under the Government of *Virginia*. Both these Countries, for Extent, will not equal *South-Carolina*. There are already great Quantities of Tobacco made there, which is a Disadvantage reckoned to *Virginia*, as they pay no Part of the Tobacco Tax in
Virgi-

Virginia. The Lands in general are like the low Counties in *Virginia*, low swampy Land, but richer. The present Settlements in this Countrey are not much farther from *Williamsburgh* in *Virginia*, than the upper Parts of *Stafford* County. The same Methods should be proposed for recovering the Quit-Rents here, as in *South-Carolina*. There is only one very good Harbour in all this Countrey, that is *Top-sail Inlet* ; yet so it has happened, whether from the Ignorance, Over-sight or Neglect of all the Governors hitherto sent there, I am not able to determine, that this fine Harbour, which is capable of receiving a Ship of forty Guns, and of containing all the Ships in *America*, is seldom or ever mentioned. That this Port, about which there is as good Land as any, is hardly settled, or so thin, that it has little or no Trade, would seem incredible: And tho' it hath been neglected or unknown to some, I foresee that it will be the principal Port; the Entrance into it being less difficult than into *Cape Fear*, and more properly situated.

The Trade of this Colony is very considerable, and takes off all sorts of our Manufactures, tho' not all of them directly from *Britain*. The People of *New-England* drive a great Trade here, whence they carry Pitch, Tar, Turpentine, Pork, Deer-Skins, some Tobacco, and sometimes

Indian Corn; all which enables *New England* to make us Remittances with Part, and the rest is sent to the Sugar Islands; the principal Part of the Tobacco produced in this Province is sent to us by the *Virginia* Ships which lie in *Nansamond* River. This is the Occasion of the Complaint of the *Virginians*, that the *North Carolina* Men send their Tobacco thro' that Province, and pay none of the Duties and Levies of *Virginia*, which are pretty burthensome, but which they brought upon themselves, by settling such large Salaries upon their Public Officers, and allowing such great Stipends to the Clergy. I have never been in *North Carolina*, except in *Top sail Inlett* and on the Banks of *Cape Fear* River, and therefore I am not able to form a proper Estimate of the Value of their Trade to this Kingdom. Some few Ships go hence thither annually, and I am assured make great Advantage; large Ships have never traded there, their Settlements having been made so indiscreetly upon sorry Rivers and within shallow Bars. The Countrey is capable of the greatest Emprovement, and with a little good Management might soon be made of more Advantage to this Kingdom, than any Colony now is which we possess.

Virginia is bounded to the Southward by *North Carolina*; to the Northward by *Pennsylvania*

silvania and *Maryland*; to the Eastward by the *Atlantic* Ocean; to the Westward by the *South Sea*. This Countrey, tho' already considerable for the Number of Inhabitants, and valuable for its Produce, namely, Tobacco, some Pitch and Tarr, Deer-Skins, and Furs of several sorts, Snake-weed, Walnut-Tree Plank, Pipe, Hogshhead and Barrel Staves, and some Iron in Piggs, all which they send to us; is yet capable of vast Improvement, and of being of much more Advantage to this Kingdom. But as the Province of *Maryland*, and lies between this and that of *Pensilvania*, which with Regard to its Produce in Quality and Quantity, seems not behind or inferior to *Virginia*; and as I apprehend little can be said of one Province which the other doth not deserve or is not capable of, I will take leave therefore to treat of them as one; for tho' they do not both belong to the Crown immediately, yet they seem to be of equal Value to this Kingdom.

Let us suppose what is within Bounds, that from these two Provinces we receive 60,000 Hogshheads of Tobacco yearly, and that one with another they weigh six hundred Pounds each; at two Pence Halfpenny *per* Pound, this comes to 375,000 *l*. The Shipping employed to bring Home this Tobacco (supposing them well contrived for this Trade) will be at least 24,000 Tons,

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which

which at ten Pounds Value *per* Ton, is 240,000 *l.* in Shipping; much the major Part of those are *English* built, and are constantly fitted and repaired here. The Freight at thirty Shillings *per* Hoghead, which is the lowest, comes to 90,000 *l.* the petty Charges and Commission on each Hoghead is not less than twenty Shillings, which amounts to 60,000 *l.* These two last named Sums we undoubtedly receive annually from these Provinces, though all the Tobacco were owned by the People in that Countrey, *viz.* 150,000 *l.* upon Tobacco only. The neat Proceeds of the Tobacco will be 225,000 *l.* all which we will suppose ordered to be returned in Goods; yet out of that there will remain at least five *per Cent.* Commission and petty Charge, which is 11,250 *l.*

The Value of the Lumber annually imported from those two Provinces is not less than 15,000 *l.* two thirds of which is clear Gains, *viz.* 10,000 *l.* because it doth not cost in that Countrey to the Value of 4000 *l.* first Cost in Goods; and there is no Freight paid for such, as it is the Master's Privilege. The Skins and Furs from these two Provinces we cannot estimate at less than 6000 *l.* *per Ann.* and these I may venture to say are bought for one sixth Part in Value from the Savages (I mean first Cost in *England*) so that there is actually gained to us on that

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Score, after Charges of Servants, &c. 4000 *l.*
 The whole amounts to upwards of 175,000 *l.*
 Or suppose one half of the whole exported,
 it would amount to upward of 187,000 *l.*
 The *French* and *Dutch* take off that Quan-
 tity; and for all that is now purchased, I am
 sure we do not give near one Penny *per*
 Pound first Cost in Goods. By this may be
 seen the vast Advantage of employing our
 own Shipping, we more than double our
 Adventure.

These Provinces produce Flax as good
 as any in the World; and I am sorry to see
 them under the Necessity of manufacturing
 it, as they are likewise of manufacturing
 Wool, which they have great Plenty of,
 and which is full as good, if not better,
 than what we have here. Those People
 who do not manufacture it, sell it to the
Pensilvanians at a cheap Price, *viz.* at six
 Pence *per* Pound Currency, which is paid
 in truck, namely, in Rum, Sugar, Salt, Mo-
 losses, or perhaps Bisket and Flour or Beer.
 It is not unusual to see Men of good Ability
 cloathed with Linnen and Woollen of their
 own Produce and Manufacture.

Hemp will grow there as well as any
 where, but it hath not come to my Know-
 ledge that great Quantities have been pro-
 duced as yet. I am told that Col. *Bird*, a Gen-
 tleman of great Ability and Capacity there,
 designs to try what can be done; he hath

produced great Quantities, but I find he is unacquainted with dressing it, and therefore hath sent for proper Persons, if they can be procured, to instruct him. This Gentleman deserves the highest Praise; and if he succeeds he will be of more real Benefit to this Kingdom, than if he had given us 100,000 Guineas a Year for ever.

Iron is more easily made in both these Provinces, than perhaps in any other Part of the World; the Ore is so rich and good, that it produces in common, at least, one Half Iron. There is one Furnace and a Forge erected at *Principio*, upon a Branch of *Northeast River* in *Maryland*, which is supplied with Ore, at present, from *Patapsco River* in *Maryland*; another is in *Virginia* upon *Potomac River*, where the Ore lies contiguous to the Furnace and Forge. The Lands near these Places are very well wooded, and yet have been, and may be bought at the Rate of from five to ten Pounds *per* hundred Acres, the Fee simple. In a very short Time they will be able to work full as cheap, if not cheaper than here; for they have already got some Slaves, which are as useful as any white Men, when they are instructed, in cutting Wood and making Charcoal, and stocking it near the Furnace, &c. and in short in all Cases where Labour is principally required.

The Writer of this hath seen these Works, and is of Opinion, that there must be very ill Management if they are not of prodigious Advantage to the Owners; and it is not at all to be wondered at, if many more Furnaces and Forges are erected there; for in many Places, where there are vast Quantities of Ore, there is the Convenience of Water, fit for any such Works, or as good as any have ever been erected in this Kingdom. In short, the Iron of these Places is not inferior to any in the World for Ship Use; and if we will not let them import it here, free from Duty, we put them upon the Necessity of manufacturing it there, by which Means we lose the Employment of so many Hands, which always was of more Value than the Iron itself; besides, in a few Years, it will be found that we shall not send them, in any Comparison, near the Quantity of our own Iron Manufacture that we now do; For as they are constrained to apply themselves to that Manufacture, no doubt, they will either find other Iron, or find Ways to convert, even that Iron, to most Uses. All these Manufactures, which may be of the highest Consequence to this Kingdom, may be easily prevented at present, at least the Increase of them.

I have before observed, that these People have manufactured some of their own Woollen and Linnen; to prevent the increase of which,

which, First, with Regard to weaving of Linnen and Woollen, let an exact Account be taken of all Looms now erected in the Plantations, and likewise a Register of all Persons now employ'd, *viz.* such as now get their Living by Weaving, that for the Future no other or more Looms be tolerated, nor any other Persons be allowed to follow, occupy and possess the Privilege of weaving any Linnen, Woollen, Silk or Hair but such as are now living, and follow the said Employments, in all the Plantations respectively. And in regard to Rope-making they should not be allowed to make above a six Inch Rope. Secondly, as to what regards the Iron Manufacture; let them be restrained from making Anchors for Shipping, which weigh above a hundred and twelve Pound; from making all Manner of Ordnance or great Guns, or even Shot for such; and from making any Muskets, Fuses or Pistols, &c. In short, all Sorts of Fire-Arms and Swords, as also all Manner of Locks and Joynt-Hinges, with all Manner of Tools for Artificers, as Carpenters, Sawyers, Joyners, Bricklayers, and all sadlery and cutlery Iron-Work, together with all Sorts of Nails less than Weight-Nails, Horse-Shoe Nails only excepted; but let them not be deprived of mending any of the aforesaid Utensils.

If this Kingdom thinks fit to put our Plantations under these or the like Restraints,
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it would be Cruelty to continue any Duty, Custom or Subsidy on any Produce, they are so far hindered from manufacturing ; on the contrary, it would be the Interest of this Kingdom, for at least twenty Years to come, to give a sufficient Bounty to encourage the Produce of Silk, Flax and Hemp, and at least to pay the Freight of all the Wool which they shall send us. As to what Mr. Gee hath proposed in his Discourse on the Trade and Navigation of *Great-Britain* considered, Page 81. “ That they also be prohibited from manufacturing of Hats, Stockings or Leather of any Kind.” This Limitation will not abridge the Planters of any Privilege they now enjoy. A very little Acquaintance with the Trade of the Northern Colonies, might have satisfied any one, that Leather is the only Article of cloathing, which several of them manufacture, not only sufficient for their own Use, but for Exportation ; namely, *South-Carolina, Pensilvania, New-York* and *New-England* ; I mean for Exportation to the *West-India* Islands, &c. but all of them tan and manufacture Leather, tho’ not each of them sufficient for their own Use. There are many Sadlers in all these Places, who work no other Leather than such as is made there. The Number of Shoe-Makers in the Colonies is undoubtedly more than all the Smiths and Weavers together ; nay, I
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am fully persuaded, that upon Enquiry, it will be found there are as many or more Tan-ners than Weavers. A considerable Part of the Trade between *Boston* and *South-Carolina*, is the light Deer-Skins, and those in Hair, which the *New-England* Men carry thence to *Boston*, where they are as well drest and apply'd to all the same Uses as here ; indeed some few of them may be sent over here, when they are a little more than ordinary in demand, but that very seldom is the Case.

There are Hat-Makers in *South-Carolina*, and I believe too in *North-Carolina* ; I know several in *Virginia*, *Maryland*, *Pensilvania* and *New-York*, and there is no Doubt, but that they have many at *Rhode Island* ; *Boston* I know has a great many : I have seen as good Hats which were made there, in all respects, as those which we buy in *England* from ten to twenty five Shillings. With Regard to Stockings ; if they are deprived of Weaving and Looms, as is proposed, it would surely seem too hard to deprive them of knitting ; for their Slaves must be other Ways employ'd, or they will be very unprofitable, while we can send them that Manufacture so cheap ; besides, it would be discouraging a very useful Piece of Industry among the Planters Wives and Children, and would certainly contribute towards making them as idle, and consequently as expensive and extravagant,

travagant, as they are now become in some famous Parts of *Europe*; for certainly even very fine Ladies would make as good a Figure, while knitting a fine Thread Glove, or even a Husband's Night-Cap; and it might shew the Hand and Arm to as much Advantage as shuffling the Cards or counting or setting up at Quadrille, Ombre or Picquet.

From whence I persuade myself there needs not any Restraint be laid upon Knitting: And if it be thought fit to lay any Restraint on tanning and manufacturing of Leather, and on making Hats, surely it would seem to any reasonable Person, too severe to deprive such a great Number of People at once of the very Means of their Subsistence, as now get their Living by those Manufactures only. Therefore surely no Method more severe than that proposed with regard to the Weavers will be thought expedient.

And it deserves serious Consideration before any Restraint be laid upon Tanning particularly. A Hide is made into Leather in half the Time in those Parts that it can be done here; the Bark is of no Value, for any one has it for fetching, which cannot be at any great Distance in any of our Settlements: All the Materials for a Tan-Yard are of an inconsiderable Value, to what they are here; the Plank and Timber being not

half the Price that it is here; Places convenient for such Business are easily obtained; you may rent one for less than half the Price that such a Place can be had here. Hence surely an Advantage would accrue to this Kingdom, if they were allowed tanning for Exportation to *Portugal, Spain,* or even to *England, &c.*

The Method here proposed would not be objected to by any People in the Plantations, of any of the Trades or Occupations mentioned, as it would be granting them a Privilege for Life, and would surely be of Advantage to them, by hindering others to underwork them; so it will be less liable perhaps to any Exception from any other Quarter, as it does not hurt or injure any one now alive, and answers all the Ends proposed.

The Trade of these two Provinces to all other Places than *Great Britain* is but inconsiderable, beside small Tobacco Sloops, which are only employed for loading the *English* Shipping, and manned with their Sailors. I am confident that there is not above a thousand Tons of Sloops and Shipping employed, to the Islands and all other Trades, on their own proper Account. I am not unacquainted that there is a vast Number of Vessels of all the Northern Colonies trade here, *viz. from Boston, Rhode Island, New York, Philadelphia, South Carolina* and

and *Bermudas*; but all those I have or shall consider, in their proper Places, and now proceed to give an Account of *Pensilvania*.

Pensilvania is bounded to the Southward by *Virginia* and *Maryland*; to the Eastward by the *Atlantic* Ocean, and the Bay and River of *Delaware*; to the Northward by the said River and Part of *New-York*; to the Westward by Lands unknown. The principal City in this Province is *Philadelphia*, which is in the Latitude of 40^d 12^m. Longitude West from *London* about 73^d 25^m. This City was founded and designed by Mr. *Penn*, in the Year 1682, when there were no more than two small Hovels, and those under the Bank upon the *Delaware* River, within the whole Plan of the City. With regard to its Situation, it is perhaps the finest in the World; upon a Neck of Land between the aforesaid *Delaware* River and *School-Kill* River, about seven Miles above the Point, where they join. It hath a Front of a Mile to each River; the Distance from one River to the other is two Miles; when you stand in the Middle or Centre of it as it is called, there seems a gentle Declivity to all the Extremities. The principal Streets lie near East and West, and parallel to each other; the others cross those at right Angles; no Street is less than a hundred Foot wide, and the

two which cross each other in the Centre, are fifty Foot apiece wider. Four of these Streets fronting and running parallel to the *Delaware*, are regularly built, and afford as much Pleasure as the Eye can receive from clean, even, and spacious Streets, adorned with regular, beautiful, and almost uniform Buildings. The Number of Houses at this time is not less than 2400, the Number of Souls not less than 12000. In this City is one Church of *England*, two Quakers Meeting-Houses, one Presbyterian, one Independent, and one Anabaptist Meeting. The other Places of principal Note in this Province are *Bristol, Pensbury, German-Town, Francfort, Derby, Chester, Newcastle* and *Lewis-Town*.

The Number of white People in this Province I take to be greater than those of *South* and *North Carolina, Virginia* and *Maryland* all together; and they are increasing still to a much greater Degree than any other Colony that I know, or have ever heard of. This Province was first granted to *William Penn Esq*; in the Year 1680.

The Reasons assigned for the prodigious Increase of Inhabitants in this Province more than any other, are principally ascribed to the Causes following. First, the good Agreement between the Savages and the People of this Province, of whom it may be said that they are the only People who
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have treated the Savages with Justice and Humanity; for no other Colony or Province admits of the Evidence of an *Indian* against a white Man, nor can the Complaint of an *Indian* affect any white Man in any Case whatever; whence those poor People in the other Provinces, have been liable to and suffered the worst and most cruel Treatment, from the most worthless and abandoned of our own, without any Hopes of Redress. The Occasion of the late *Indian* War in *Carolina*, for Example, was owing to this. Our Traders there carry up among the *Indians*, Duffles, Strouds, Guns, Powder and Shot; Beads, Rum, Sugar, &c. An *Indian* coming from his Hunt, where he had acquired perhaps fifty or a hundred Deer-Skins, goes to one of these Traders: The poor Man is generally so cautious that he will not taste one Drop of Rum before he hath made his Bargain, and supplied himself as far as his Stock will go; after that, there are but few who have Resolution enough to withstand the seeming friendly Solicitations of the Traders, who then persuade them to drink, assuring them that it shall cost them nothing; by this Means the poor Savage perhaps, his Wife and Children too, are all made drunk, and kept in that Condition several Days; when they are suffered to come to themselves, they then enquire after the Things which
they

they bought, and frequently have for Answer, You gave them to us for Rum when you were drunk; which no doubt might be true enough, for they will part with whatever is most dear to them, while in that Condition, for more Rum.

These Transactions I have known to be calmly and sedately represented by the principal Men of the *Indians* to our Governors, complaining of such intolerable Oppressions, as also that the Traders compel the *Indians* to carry Burdens of Skins many Miles for them, without any Reward. If an *Indian* refuse, he is in Danger of being shot immediately; and if it be in the *Indians* Country, the Value of forty Shillings Sterling will satisfy his next a-kin, or buy the Blood as it is called; but if it be in another Countrey, the Murderer is not accountable to any one. Thus the Dread of resisting a white Man makes them desperate; and they having often complained without any Redress, resolved to destroy these their Oppressors, or perish in the Attempt. Wherefore on *Good-Friday*, in the Year 1714, as I remember, they killed about forty of these Tyrants, which occasioned the *Indian* War. Since they have made a Peace, the Matter is not much mended with the *Indians*, for they are still as liable to be abused as before, whenever the Traders forget the Fate of their Predecessors; for no Complaints or Testimo-

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nies of *Indians* are sufficient, even in Cases of Murder, to convict the most scoundrel white Man; hence arise perpetual Enmity, Hatred, Jealousy and Distrust. Let any one know you don't love him, and he will hate you.

The Case being the same with Regard to *Indian* Evidence; and as they are thus treated in all the Colonies, except *Pensilvania*, it is not to be wondered at, if all of them, in their Turns, have been in fear of the *Indians*; and indeed to me the Wonder is much greater, that any of them ever came to be so considerable, but that I know those poor People were divided among themselves. We are struck with Horror when we read Accounts of the *Spaniards* in the Conquest of the *Indies*, but nothing I ever saw or heard of, exceeded the Massacre I am going to relate.

During the *Indian* War in *Carolina*, the Honourable *Charles Craven*, Esq; was Governor, who behaved on all Occasions, at the Head of the Forces of that Province, against the *Indians*, with signal good Conduct, much personal Bravery and Gallantry; and it was often thought, that if a Man of only ordinary Ability had been Governor, that Province would have been destroyed. As soon as this Gentleman had reduced the *Indians*, his Affairs calling him to *England*, he left Major *Daniel* in his Stead, before whom an *Indian* Chief, named

Turkeycock, of a neighbouring Nation of *Indians*, accused twelve of the *Cusfoes* (as I remember they were called) of having held a Correspondence with the *Cherokees*, our Enemies in the Time of the late War. The accused People were then at *Charles-Town*, and at the Command of the said *Daniel*, were sent for, and, without being heard, put in Irons, and immediately ordered and sent on board a Sloop bound for *Barbadoes*. The Master of the Sloop came to the Governor to excuse himself from taking any Charge of those People, who, as he said, were most of them old Men, and such as moved his Compassion; that if he were inclinable to sell them at *Barbadoes* according to the Governors command, they would not fetch enough to pay their Passage. The Governor still insisted on his carrying them; but the Master being resolved not to have any farther to do with them, desired to know where he should send them: Upon which the Governor said, fiercely, *I'll send them*; whereupon he called *Turkeycock*, and bid him take some of his People and kill those *Indians* on board the Sloop; which they did, by cleaving their Skulls with Hatchets, as they sat on the Hatches of the Sloop, and then threw them over-board. This was done in an *English* Town, by Command of an *English* Governor; no one who lived
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at that Time in *South-Carolina*, is ignorant of this Fact.

In *Pensylvania* the *Indians* find no such cruel Treatment and Barbarity. But another Reason for the Increase of People and the Improvement of the Country, is the wholesome Laws of that Province, by which all Men, without distinction, are protected from Injury and Persecution, on Account of any religious Opinions; for from the Foundation of the Government here, there never hath been an Instance of any Spiritual Power being exercised, or so much as claimed under any Authority in this Province. Here is a universal Toleration of all Sorts of Religions; no Person here is accountable to Men for what concerns the Deity, and what the Deity only can be Judge of; here are no Laws which pronounce one Mode of Religion more sacred than another; here men are esteemed in Proportion to their Characters, as they are signal for Morality and Virtue, or immoral and vicious; here no one who professes himself a Christian, and will subscribe the Declarations appointed instead of the State-Oaths, is excluded from the Magistracy or the Legislature; here are no Priests or Clergy maintained by Law, and therefore there are but few, except we call the Preachers among the Quakers Priests and Clergy, who utterly disown both Denominations, as they

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preach

preach not for any Fee or Reward, or Hire in this World. Here are some Presbyterian Congregations, who maintain their Ministers very well; the Anabaptists, Independents and other Separatists do the same. But whence it proceeds, I will not take upon me to determine, that the Clergy of the Church of *England*, tho' they have very handsome Churches in this Province, and tho' all or most of them have Salaries allowed by some People or Society in *England*; I say, notwithstanding such Salaries, and as absolute Toleration as Men can have, and tho' their Followers in general are more wealthy and more numerous than all others, yet, as soon as ever a Benefice happens down in *Maryland*, tho' sometimes not a larger, they immediately go there, where I have been told they have some Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction growing up among them.

The People of *Maryland*, to shew their Zeal for the Church, did by Law give the Parson of every Parish forty Pounds of Tobacco for every taxable Person; namely, upon every one that works in the Field or Plantation, Dissenters and all, tho' the latter before had decently maintained their own Preachers, some of whom, indeed, were honest Tradesmen, and scorned any Maintenance but what they acquired by their Labour and Industry. In some Parishes this
arises

arises to a very considerable Sum; but lately the People of *Maryland* observing the Behaviour of the Clergy there, thought that a Tax of thirty Pounds *per* Poll was sufficient, and pass'd a Law accordingly, which Law was dissented to and annulled by their Proprietor here: Hence may other Plantations and People learn the Danger of bestowing inconsiderately unreasonable Revenues on the Church or Clergy. Where are any Instances to be found of Churchmen's restoring to the People any Revenues or Possessions, tho' ever so unjustly acquired or obtained by them? The Exercise of a little ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, together with such heavy Taxes, will drain the Province of *Maryland* of their People, notwithstanding the Numbers of Convicts daily sent there; for who will chuse to stay under a Yoke or Bondage, when they can be free by removing only fifty or a hundred Miles into a Countrey not less eligible for Soil, Clime and Fruitfulness, and for the greatest Blessings Mankind can enjoy, preferable to any Spot, perhaps, on the whole Globe?

The Productions of this delightful Countrey, *viz.* *Pensilvania*, for Exportation, are chiefly Wheat, Flour, Bread, Barrel-Beef, Pork, Hams, Bacon, Cheese, Butter, Soap, Myrtle-Wax-Candles, Starch, Hair-Powder, Apples, Cyder, Tann'd-Leather,

Upper-Leather drest and curried, Tallow-Candles, Bees-Wax, Myrtle-Wax, Strong-Beer, Linseed-Oyl, Cordial-Waters, Deer-Skins, Beaver, Otter, Fox, Raccoon, Fisher, Minx and other Skins, and some Tobacco. They likewise go upon producing Hemp in this Province, by allowing a Bounty among themselves of three Half-pence *per* Pound, beside the Bounty allowed by this Kingdom, which is not sufficient to encourage People to go upon that Manufacture. The Bounties which they have paid and allowed, and the Quantities produced between the third of *May* 1726, &c. are as underneath.

	lb.	l.	s.	d.
From 3 ^d of <i>May</i> 1726 to the 14 th of <i>March</i> 1726.	43169	at 1 Penny	179	17 05
14 th <i>March</i> 1726 to the 14 th of <i>May</i> 1727.	15835	at Ditto.	65	19 07
3 ^d <i>August</i> 1727 to the 9 th of <i>Jan.</i> 1727.	- - - - -		26	16 07
14 th <i>May</i> 1728 to the 14 th of <i>Nov</i> 1728.	9363	at 1½	58	10 04
14 th <i>Nov.</i> 1728 to the 14 th of <i>May</i> 1729.	- - -	at Ditto.	17	06 00
8 th <i>August</i> 1729 to the 14 th of <i>Nov.</i> 1729.	3903	at Ditto.	24	07 10
14 th <i>Nov.</i> 1729 to the 5 th of <i>August</i> 1730.	2952	at Ditto.	18	09 00
			<hr/> 391	<hr/> 06 09

I have Reason to believe that they have paid much more than the above mentioned Sums; but these I can assure the Reader have been paid on the Days they are charged,

ed, which shews the ready Compliance of the People of this Province, in their Endeavours to produce what is recommended to them, as the most profitable for this Kingdom. They export also Lumber, as saw'd Boards and Timber for building Houses, Cypress, Shingles, Pipe Hogthead and Barrel-Staves and Heading, Masts, Yards, Spars for any Uses, and Timber for Ship Use, of all Sorts; Drugs as Sassafras, Snake-Root, Calamus-Aromaticus, and many others. They likewise build about 2000 Tons of Shipping yearly, over and above what they employ in their own Trade, only that such Vessels are always loaded thence. There are several Iron-Mines in the Country, and some are already working, whence there is excellent Iron produced.

That I may the better be able to shew the Advantages arising from this Province to this Kingdom, I will suppose what is a pretty constant Practice. A *Londoner*, or any *Englishman*, lays out here in our Manufactures to the Value of 500 *l*. It will purchase there 6666 Bushels of Wheat; which sent to *Lisbon* at four Shillings *per* Bushel, will come to 1333 *l*. 4*s*. which is sure to be sent Home to *England* at last, if not immediately, and is of the same Advantage for Remittance or Exchange as any such Sum produced by Goods or Merchandize sent from hence directly: And I would be
glad

glad to know what we could send hence to any Part of *Europe* to make such Gain. It is obvious that *Portugal* in this Case pays the whole Sum, and our Seamen and Merchants divide it. It is pretty common for the Captain, if the Ship be Plantation built, to have Orders to sell the Ship, if he can get a certain Price for it, which often happens, and in that Case generally, the whole Produce of Ship and Cargoe is sent to *England*; and if it was not the Property of *Englishmen* (I mean those who live in *England*) before, it is always ordered to be laid out in Goods, all of the Manufacture of this Kingdom, or such as are imported here, and sent to *Pensilvania*.

In another Branch this Province is also of signal Advantage to us; for all the Money they get by trading with the *Dutch*, *French* or *Spaniards*, or any others, which are not inconsiderable Sums, are sent directly here. From the Island of *Curafoa* they do not receive less than from 4 to 6000 Pistoles a Year. The Goods they send there are Bread, Flour, barrell'd Pork, Hams, *Indian* Corn, strong Beer, Cyder, Butter, Cheese, &c. and some live Stock, namely, Hogs, Fowls, &c. except a little Cocoa, their Returns from thence are always ready Money. They trade to *Surinam* too, but do not receive near the Specie there that they do at *Curafoa*, tho' that is a very gainful

gainful Trade to them. By their Trade to *Cape François* and *Pettit-Guavas* on *Hispaniola*, and to *Martinico*, *Granado*, *Guadalupe* and *Leogan*, they pick up some Money: For a Sloop will bring sometimes two or three hundred Pistoles thence, beside her Loading of Molosses, &c. Very often they sell all their Cargoes in *Jamaica* and other Places for Money, and return in Ballast with that Money only, which is sure to come to *England* at last. The Reason of returning empty from *Jamaica*, is the high Price of Rum and Molosses there. It is allowed that the finest Rum is made in *Jamaica*, and therefore is in such Demand to send Home, that the northern People can seldom afford to purchase it, especially when Fleets are upon sailing. In short, all the Money they get is sent to *England*; and if in the Course of their Dealing they barter for any Goods, Wares or Merchandizes which will suit an *English* Market, they too are sent here to purchase our own Manufactures, of which they have not taken less for many Years past than to the Value of 150,000 *l.* per Annum.

Somewhat more than half of the whole Shipping which clear out of this Province are owned by People of this Kingdom, and many of them are *British* built. The Quantity of Shipping employed by them, I take to be about 6,000 Tons, beside about 2,000
Tons

Tons which they build, and generally load thence, many of which never return. I compute that, as many of their Sloops make several Trips in one Year, they cannot export less annually than 12,000 Tons of their own Commodities. In all which this Kingdom is principally concerned, not only as Owners, but as Adventurers. Some of these to the Quantity of 2000 Tons, come directly to this Kingdom and *Ireland* annually; all of these bring us Money, and (as is before observed) besides their own Produce, they frequently send us Logwood, Sugar, Rice, Pitch, Tarr and Train-Oil; in fine, whatever they think we want or they can spare.

They trade to the Provinces of *Virginia*, *Maryland*, *Carolina*, and all the Islands in the *West Indies* (except the *Spanish*, however their Flour brings many thousands of Pieces of Eight from thence) likewise considerably to the *Canary Isles*, *Madera*, and the *Azores* or western Isles; to *Spain* and *Portugal* constantly, or any other Part of *Europe* where they can have a Prospect of Advantage; as also to *Newfoundland*, whence they frequently order Remittances to this Kingdom of Money, the Produce of their Fish in *Spain*, *Portugal*, or any Part of the *Mediterranean* where they send it. With *New England* likewise they have a constant Interchange of Trade, In fine, as there are
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in the City of *Philadelphia* many Merchants of Ability and good Capacity, they carry their Trade wherever Gain and Advantage is to be made; which hath not been to their own Profit and Advantage only, but to that of their Mother Kingdom; inasmuch as all the Money they can by any Means obtain, they constantly send here, even to the putting themselves under the Necessity of making and establishing a Paper Credit or Currency there. A few Years ago I had the Opportunity of computing, in Company with some Gentlemen of that Province, the Sums of Money annually remitted to *England*, directly from or mediately by the Produce of that Province; and we then agreed that not less than 60,000 *l.* Sterling in Cash was annually so remitted; for which there were always ordered Goods and Manufactures from this Kingdom only.

From this Province, by Way of *Maryland* and *Virginia*, we have at least 10,000 *l.* a Year: Most of it comes from *Philadelphia* thus; The Masters of Ships in those Provinces are above all others under the Necessity of having Money for their Expences for which they give their Bills, and these Bills are frequently negotiated at *Philadelphia*, by which Means the Money is drawn thence. This Money by Circulation comes into the Hands of Store Keepers and Shop-Keepers, who at the Departure of the

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Ships

Ships send it over here to *England* to purchase Goods, which at the Return of the Shipping, they find has turned to much more Advantage than they could any other Way have made. Whatever they sell their Wheat, Flour and Bread for in *Portugal* or *Spain*, is generally sent to *London*, which cannot amount to less than 25,000 *l.* per *Ann.* they remit from *Newfoundland* by Way of *Spain*, 4000 *l.* by their Trade to the *Canaries*, 4000 *l.* the remaining Part is sent directly over to *Great-Britain*; most of which Money as I have said before, they take from the *French* and *Dutch* in the *West-Indies*: And without this Trade to the *Dutch* and *French* Colonies, they would not be able to make Remittances to above half that Sum in Cash, nor capable of making Remittances for the half of the Remainder in Goods. The Prices of Rum and Sugar and Molosses, which they cannot live without, and without which they cannot carry on Trade among the *Indians*, nor trade to *Newfoundland*, would be lost to them by the raising of the Prices of those Commodities in our Islands.

The Provinces of the *East* and *West New Jersey's*, as they lie between *Pensilvania* and the Province of *New York*, fall next in Order to be treated of. As they are at present under the Government of the same Person with *New-York*; and as their Productions

ductions are so much alike, tho' they are under different Laws, and have different Assemblies; I shall consider them all as one, since little can be said of the Productions of one, which may not be said of all, excepting that in *New-York* there is the richest Copper-Mine discovered, which perhaps was ever heard of, and great Quantities of it have been brought to this Kingdom: This is a vast Treasure lately discovered, as well as those Irons Mines mentioned in *Virginia*, *Maryland* and *Pensilvania*; and from thence we may be supplied with all we want of those Commodities, and pay for them with our own Manufactures only. These Mines may be made in all Respects of equal Advantage to this Kingdom, if not more, than if they had been discovered here. We need not any longer be drained of our Money for those two valuable Metals, we may have all we want for a little Labour only. If Mr. *Gee* was right in his Computation, by our taking these two Commodities from our own Plantations, we may save above 300,000 *l.* in Cash, which we pay annually to *Sueden* and *Denmark*.

These and all the Settlements we have upon the Main, are very capable of producing Hemp, Flax and Pot-Ash, and in short, most, if not all, the rough Materials we want; and I am persuaded that if we would but attend to the Improvement of our own Set-

lements upon the main Continent of *America*, we should in very little Time be supplied from thence even with all things we stand in need of. If some of the Measures were taken which I have hinted at, for restraining some Manufactures which in time may interfere with our own, a Foundation might be laid, and such an Intercourse and Communication settled between us and them, that as their whole Dependance would be on us, so we might be assured of being constantly supplied. It is highly our own Interest, and will be our Happiness; we shall employ more People, in a Way by which they will be most conducive to our Strength and Protection.

Whatever I have before said of *Pensilvania*, with Regard to its Produce and Trade, may be said of *New-York* and the *Jersey's*, except that they do not build so many Ships. Their Trade to *Surinam* and *Curaçoa* is perhaps more valuable. To *England* I believe they send fewer Ships, yet those richer, as they deal for more Skins and Furs with the *Indians*. These Countries send us all the Money which they get by any of their Trades; they do not take less from us than *Pensilvania* doth, and are in all Respects of equal Advantage to us.

The Province of *New-York* is bounded to the Northward by *New-England*; to the East ward

Eastward by the *Atlantic* Ocean; to the Southward by the *Jersey's* and *Pensilvania*; and to the Westward by the River *St. Lawrence*. The City of *New-York* hath near as many Inhabitants as *Philadelphia*, and is a most delightful Place. The Gentlemen here are exceeded by none in Kindness and Civility to Strangers; the Countrey one of the pleansatest in the Universe; the Clime temperate, the Air serene; for except about the latter End of *August* and *September*, they have no drisley, foggy or thick Weather; one of their Showers of Rain is generally over in two Hours, then are they blest with a clear Sky. Here are no Phtifics or Consumptions, and so very few Physicians and Apothecaries that People live to a very great Age. They have very few Clergy, and are signal for their Morals and Beneficence.

Under *New-England* I shall comprehend not only *Rhode Island*, but the whole Tract of Land and Islands which we claim on the Continent of *America*, to the Northward and Eastward of the Province of *New-York*. This Province is bounded to the Southward by *New-York*; to the Eastward by the *Atlantic* Ocean; to the Northward and Westward by the Streights of *Canso*, and the Bay and River of *St. Lawrence*. From the Bounds of *New-York* to the
Streights

Streights of *Canfo* the Distance is a hundred sixty five Leagues; and so much Front hath this Countrey toward the *Atlantic* Ocean. The Soil and Product are not unlike those of *Great-Britain*. The People within this vast Tract of Land are numerous, not less than 120,000 *British* Subjects; and it is computed that by the Trade within these Bounds only, there are not less than six hundred Sail of Ships and Sloops employed, making at least 38000 Tons, one half of which trade to *Europe*; and also, that by the Fisheries and in the Shipping together, there are not less than from five to six thousand Men employed.

The Fisheries within these Bounds have produced at a Medium, for several Years past, two hundred and thirty Thousand Quintals of dried Fish, which is sent to *Spain*, *Portugal* and the *Mediterranean*, and upon an Average, have produced there, clear of all Charges, twelve Shillings *per* Quintal, the whole amounting to a hundred and thirty eight Thousand Pounds Sterling, all which Sum may be said to be clearly gained out of the Sea; because Materials, *viz.* Salt, Rum, Molosses, all Provisions, and all Manner of Utensils expended and worn in this Trade, are purchased for the Refuse-Fish and the Oyl made from such Fisheries. Hence may be estimated the prodigious Advantage of
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our Fisheries, when from our own Labour only, after having paid great and large Freights, and by that Means giving an Employment to a great Number of Men and Shipping, here is a real Treasure of a hundred and third eight thousand Pounds *per Ann.* added to the Riches of our Kingdom; every Penny of this, as well as the Freight and Commissions which are earned by our own People, and which (it is not to be doubted) are near one third of the whole more, is remitted to *Great-Britain*; the whole Sum not is less than a hundred and seventy two thousand five hundred Pounds. This Trade hath increased lately above one third Part; and it is thought that this Increase hath been in a great Measure owing to the Trade carried on by the *New-England* People to the *French* Islands, whereby they can obtain Rum and Molosses as cheap or rather cheaper than they used to purchase them at *Barbadoes*, before the Peace of *Utrecht*; whereas, since that Time, the Prices of Rum and Molosses, in our Islands, is raised to near double the Price they then sold at, or what the *French* sell for now. The Whale Fishery produces annually from eleven to thirteen hundred Tons of Oyl, including what is made by *New-England* Men at *Cape Fear* in *Carolina*, (where I have seen three *New-England*

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land Vessels at once, on that Account) besides, at least forty Tons of Whale-Bone.

These are not the only Advantages *Great-Britain* reaps from these People; they likewise send all or most of those Commodities which are the Produce of their Countrey; namely, Lumber of all Sorts, such as Pipe, Hogthead and Barrel-Staves, Anchor-Stocks, Oak-Plank and Timber, also crooked Timber, as Knees and Standards, also Bread, Flour, Wheat, *Indian* Corn, pickled Herrings, Mackrel and Sturgeon to many Parts of *Europe*, the whole Produce of which is constantly remitted to *England*. They send vast Quantities of their Lumber and Horses, also Provisions of all Sorts to our *West-India* Islands, the Produce of which is frequently ordered to be remitted to *Great-Britain*. They likewise trade to the *Bay of Honduras* for Logwood; and as they build Shipping so very cheap, they can and do afford to sell their Lumber, in the *West-Indies* at an exceeding low Price, so that our Sugar Colonies are supplied much cheaper than any other are: Not a few of their Shipping are loaded there and come home to *England*, and by that Means, are as absolutely profitable to *England*, and indeed more so than if they had been built there; for after this Ship's Freight from *Boston* (for Example) to *Barbadoes*, and from *Bar-*
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badoes

badoes to *England*, which *England* hath as certainly received, as if the Ship had gone from *London* to *Barbadoes* first of all; this *Boston* Ship is purchased by a *Londoner*, at as cheap, or cheaper Rate than he could have purchased one, in all Respects of equal Goodness, built in *England*. It will be allowed that henceforth, this Ship is to be looked upon and esteemed as absolutely *English* as any other; from hence may be seen, that in this Case, *England* was at no Manner of Expence in fitting out this *Boston* Ship, yet *England* receives all the Freight and Profit on the Voyage from *Boston* to *Barbadoes* and *England*, which *England* pays for in Woollen and other of our Manufactures. Now if *England*, in this Case, hath to a greater Value and Quantity of Goods brought Home, for less Expence of her Manufactures, (which I can demonstrate is the Case) than if they were brought in *English* Ships, first sent from *England*, it is manifest that the *New England* Ship was the most profitable to *England* so far; nor can there be a Case put, where a Ship built in the Plantations (in Proportion to her Value in *England*) is not of equal Profit and Advantage to this Kingdom, as if built here, unless we were sure that any such were employed by Foreigners, in Trades wherein they rivalled us, and without which they

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could

could not possibly carry on any such Trade ; nor in that Case, if a Ship so employed by them, were built in *England*, would the Thing be altered.

But it would be Weakness in us, to hinder our own People from supplying, even a Rival or an Enemy, with such Things as he could be supplied with, either from his own Dominions or any other People, while by such supplying him or them, we made a real Gain and Advantage. The *Dutch* in Time of War have sold Powder and Shot, and many other warlike Stores, as well as Provisions, to their Enemy. This was certainly the Effect of their Consideration and Prudence ; they perceived that their Enemies might be supplied from other Nations ; nay, they knew those Enemies had and produced as many Materials fit for carrying on Manufactures as themselves, and that if they did not supply them, these Enemies would soon be supplied from those Nations, or produce them for their own Use, and in either Case the *Dutch* were sure to be Loosers. Upon such Considerations as these we ought to proceed in all Affairs of Trade and Commerce ; and I will venture to say, it is entirely owing to these Countries, I am now treating of, that, after having built and maintained a greater Number and better Ships too, than any other Power
upon

upon the whole Globe ever did, we are yet able to maintain as many as ever, and cheaper, perhaps, than we used to do, which is more than can be said of any other of our Manufactures, (as I call this of Ship-Building.) Is it not manifestly owing to this, that we can navigate cheaper than most Powers in *Europe*? Can we say upon any other Article whatever, that the Charge or Price is not enhanced in Proportion to our *European* Neighbours, but in this single Instance only? Hence, by any considerate Person, may be perceived the vast Advantage arising and accruing to this Nation, from these Northern Colonies.

The Inhabitants of *New-England*, in order to shew their Readiness in complying with whatever seems to be for the mutual Advantage of them and their Mother Kingdom, have given a Bounty of one Penny *per* Pound upon all Hemp and Flax produced there. This Colony produces, tho' not in so great a Degree, the same Commodities with *Pensilvania* and *New-York*. Here are several Manufactures begun, as I have mentioned before, and they have long been famous for making the best Falling-Axes in the World. From hence too we have the largest Masts in the World for our Royal Navy. All the Gold and Silver (with whatever is of Value there, after their own

Necessities are supplied) is sent to *England*, and there centers; for which they never draw from us one Penny in Cash or Bullion, but receive an exchange of our own Manufactures; namely, Woollen, Iron-Work, Lead-Shot and Lead, with all Manner of wearing Apparel, Household-Goods, &c. in short, whatever is the Manufacture of this Kingdom, will sell to Advantage there, beside *East-India* Goods and foreign Linnens, which we send them from hence.

As I have always been of Opinion that these Northern Colonies and Fisheries, are of the greatest Consequence and Advantage to this Kingdom, so I am well pleased to find that so far I have had the Concurrence of several Persons who seem to have understood the Trade and Interest of this Kingdom, the best of any Men whatever. The Author of a Book entitled, *A Discourse of Trade, Coin and Paper-Credit, and of Ways and Means to gain and retain Riches*, printed in *London* 1697, is entirely of the same Opinion. I am well assured by the Style, that this Treatise was wrote by a Merchant, and one who understood the Subject he treated of, as well as any Man ever did; it is worth the perusal of any one, who would be acquainted with Trade and Commerce. In Page 5.
the

the Author says, “ No Trades can be more
 “ secure, to be for the Interest of this Na-
 “ tion, than what are carried on by the
 “ Exportation of our Products and Manu-
 “ facturies, or by such Goods as come here
 “ from our Plantations, because of the Ad-
 “ vantage we have by the Exportation, in
 “ the Consumption of our Product and
 “ Employment of the Poor ; but no Trade
 “ is more likely to increase Seamen than
 “ our Fishing - Trade is , because great
 “ Numbers (as well as some Landmen,
 “ which thereby become Seamen) are im-
 “ ployed in the taking and making, as well
 “ as in carrying it to foreign Markets ;
 “ and no Trade can produce more clear
 “ Profit to the Nation, because the whole
 “ Value ariseth from the Labours of our
 “ People, excepting the Salt. Trades that
 “ have so good a Foundation should be
 “ promoted, because it is not so difficult to
 “ judge what Trades are good, by the Ex-
 “ portation, as what are bad by Importation.”

And a little farther he says, “ Trades carri-
 “ ed on by the Exportation of Money are
 “ dangerous, and ought only to be approv-
 “ ed of for the purchasing of Goods in
 “ foreign Parts to be carried to foreign Mar-
 “ kets, from whence there may be a Proba-
 “ bility that the Returns will bring in more
 “ Money than was carried out.” Mr. *Mun*

too, in his Treatise called *England's Treasure by foreign Trade*, &c. Page 22. says, " We ought to esteem and cherish those
 " Trades which we have in remote Coun-
 " tries; for beside the Increase of Ship-
 " ping and Mariners thereby, the Wares
 " sent thither and received from thence
 " are far more profitable to the Kingdom,
 " than by our Trades near at Hand "; and
 he there gives several undeniable Instances,
 to which I refer the Reader.

I persuade myself that no one will want
 to be convinced that the Trade we have to
New-England, &c. hath all the Marks of an ad-
 vantageous and profitable Trade, and there-
 fore I shall presume to give my Opinion as
 to some Profits and Advantages hitherto not
 mentioned. They take from us annually of
 our Manufactures, and Linnens imported
 here, also *India* Goods, and whatever else
 we send them, to the Value of 400,000 *l.*
 yearly, which they remit to us in the man-
 ner I have before mentioned, and which
 in all Respects are of as great Benefit to
 this Kingdom as any other Trade whatever,
 in Proportion to the Sums dealt for, ex-
 cepting that the Shipping employed in the
 Commerce between us is not so constantly
 fitted in *England*. Upon the whole I am
 persuaded that we gain annually by all
 these Provinces of *Rhode-Island*, the *Mas-*
sachusetts.

sachusetts Bay, New Hampshire, Nova Scotia, or Canso, a prodigious Sum; nor will it be much doubted by any one, of what Consequence any Place is, which takes from us Goods to so great a Value, and not one Penny of our Coin or Bullion.

Near adjoining to *Canso*, or *Nova Scotia*, is *Gaspa Isle*, alias *Cape-Breton*, where the *French* have a considerable Settlement and Fishery. I am well informed that they make about 200 thousand Quintals of Fish, which they catch upon the *English* Banks near *Canso*, by the Connivance of our People.

Newfoundland is but very thinly inhabited by us, but it is of prodigious Advantage to us. It is computed that we make one Year with another about 200 thousand Quintals of Fish there; which, as I said before, will sell for 120 thousand Pounds, clear of all Charges, only at twelve Shillings *per* Quintal; all which may be reasonably reckoned clear Gain to this Kingdom; for as I observed before, the Oil would pay for Salt, &c. And all this Sum is actually got by our Labour, and is of more Service to the Kingdom, by breeding of useful Seamen (the natural Strength of this Kingdom) than if so much were to
be

be dug out of the Mine by a thousandth Part of the Trouble or Labour; and that Kingdom or Nation which hath the Means and keeps their People exercis'd and imployed, can never fail of being powerful and rich; whereas we see Nations and Kingdoms possess'd of vast natural Wealth and Swarms of People, whose Power is despis'd. From *Newfoundland* we have great Quantities of Skins and Furs, namely, Seal, Deer, Fox, Otter, Minx and Bear-Skins, likewise some Beaver, &c.

I shall not take upon me to make any Estimate of the Advantages arising to this Kingdom from *Hudson's Bay* and *Davis's-Streights*, being entirely unacquainted there; yet thus much I have learned, that the Trade there is extremely beneficial to all Persons concerned, even far beyond any other, in Proportion to the Sums dealt for.

Bermudas, though a small Island, or rather a great many small Islands, lies in the Latitude of $32^{\text{d}} 30^{\text{m}}$ North; Longitude from *London* 64^{d} West; and about two hundred Leagues distant from the Continent of *America*. In *Queen Ann's War* there was upwards of a hundred Sail of Brigantines and Sloops belonging to this Island; but at present I am assured that there is not above half that Number. This
Island,

Island, which was formerly one of the most fruitful, is now near worn out: And such is and will be the Fate of all small Islands, where People increase so fast, and so constantly keep their Lands tilled. Such in part is the Case of the Island of *Barbadoes* already, yet the Planters there are not willing to remove to Places where twice the Quantity of Sugars may be made by the same Labour as there. The People of *Bermudas* too are not easily to be persuaded to remove to a better Countrey, where the same Degree of Industry and Frugality, which these People are remarkable for, would soon enrich them. These People are extremely civil and kind to Strangers; and when they have a good Governor, as it is universally allowed they had of Governor *Bennet*, no People are more happy. They have very few Priests, as few Physicians, and fewer Lawyers. All the Necessaries which they want, such as Apparel and Household Goods, they are furnished with from hence; for which they send us Money, and fine Plait for making Womens Hats, &c. together with whatever they can spare, of any Commodities which bear a Price here. The *Bermudians* in general are excellent Hands on board of Sloops, and the best Fishermen that I ever knew. They navigate their Vessels at less Expence than any other People, and consequently can get by smaller Freights.

To conclude, I am of Opinion that this Kingdom gains clear Profit by our *American* Colonies yearly, the Sum of one Million Sterling, exclusive of what we get by any Trades for Negroes or dry Goods by the *Spaniards*; and that in and by our Colonies only, we maintain and employ at least eighteen thousand Seamen and Fishermen.

F I N I S.

ERRATA.

PAGE 23. line 17. for *fourteen* read *twenty*. P. 49. l. 4. put a full Point after *it*. l. 6 after *Island*, instead of a full Point put a Comma. P. 57. l. 24. for 100, read 1000. P. 64. l. 7. for *Stone* read *Stono*. P. 69. l. 11. for *aver* read *over*. P. 70. l. 2. after *would* add *be*. P. 73. l. 13 dele *and*. P. 103. l. 6. for *third* read *thirty*. l. 13. for *not is* read *is not*.





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